Why I Decided To Write A Multigenre Memoir Project by Missy Snyder

 When I first started to think about creating a multigenre project, the first thing I thought about was creating a project that reflected on my life. Because I am an adult learner, I have had many experiences that have molded me into the person that I am today. I like the quote from Laurie Swistak in the article “Multigenre Research: The Power of Choice and Interpretation” that says “although everyone’s life has a purpose, there are certain people who have made outstanding contributions in history”. I interpret this to say that everyone life is a story, although some stories may be more well known than others, everyone’s story is important. I have always been a positive person that believes everything happens for a reason.

I started my project with Dear Diary entries created in Glogster. The first diary entry I shared was the day that I married my husband. I also wrote diary entries for Alex and Lydnsey’s recent birthday’s. I then wanted to create a timeline that would highlight several important events in my life. I used power point and put a picture with a caption on the slide describing the event and why I found it to be important to me. The last part of the project, I decided to create a Comic Life. The students in my placement made one and I really liked the formatting they used. I thought this would be a fun way to highlight my journey to become a teacher.

I connected with this quote from *Finding Memorable Moments* by Cecilia Espinosa, “Making meaningful inviting ways that teachers adjust their language and their teaching to meet the needs of learners, so that instead of the learners simply acquiring the new language, the teachers and the classrooms “acquire the learners” (Espinosa, 2006). It is so important for students to understand that the writing process is something that will grow as their experiences grow. Having experiences that reflect and reaffirming who they are will help them to write their memoir. Taking these experiences and creating a multigenre project will provide choice and freedom to inquire and experiment with a variety of genres. I will incorporate books like “The Magic School Bus” series as examples of multigenre books because “the story and information side panels present a more complete, multigenre presentation” (Tompkins, 2012). Having examples of how to create multigenre project is very important for students to see how creating a multigenre project can be.

Creating this multigenre memoir project has challenged me by limiting all of the events that have happened in my life, to just a few. I know that by creating this memoir, I have grown as a person and a learner. I am hoping that this project will be an inspiration for all who read it to create their own multigenre memoir project!

Allen, C. A., Swistak, L., & Smith, K. (2004). Multigenre research: The power of choice and interpretation. *Language Arts, 81*(3), 223-232. Retrieved from

 http://search.proquest.com/docview/196901291?accountid=13158

Espinosa, C. M. (2006). Finding memorable moments: Images and identities in autobiographical writing. *Language Arts, 84*(2), 136-144. Retrieved from http://search.proquest.com/docview/196860809?accountid=13158

Tompkins, G. E. (2012). *Teaching writing, balancing process and product*. (6th ed.). Boston:

 Allyn & Bacon.