

Lilian Barton—AmeriCorps Fall 2002 Hoover School

My 900 hour placement was at Hoover Elementary School. This was the best learning experience ever. At first I was not sure that I would be able to do all of the tasks asked of me. However, all of the teachers had total confidence in me and my abilities and this helped me so much.

One of the main teachers I was assigned to taught second grade in the morning and first grade in the afternoon. I was able to do many things in her classroom, from working with children one-on-one to assisting her in lesson teaching.

I was able to expand my horizons a little more at Hoover. For an hour a day I was able to work in a fifth grade class. At first I was scared because I am used to working with younger children and I wasn't sure if I could handle it. When I first started in the class, I would walk around and help correct papers. By the end of the school year the teacher had me teaching my own reading group. I was given a novel to read with a group of students.



This is one of the pictures that a student drew for me, thanking me for helping her with reading.

It was wonderful to receive comments from teachers, parents and staff on how great it was that I was at Hoover. Many of the teachers said that I was learning more as an AmeriCorps Member than if I was student teaching.



Community Service was a part of the AmeriCorps experience. Here we made diversity wreaths in honor of MLK, Jr. Day.