# Rafael Hernandez School Service Learning Expo

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#### CHNS 3101 Advanced Chinese 1 Service Learning

This semester, our class taught second and third graders at the Rafael Hernandez School in Roxbury, MA elements of Chinese language and culture. In groups of three or four, we created original lesson plans and then carried them out every Tuesday throughout the semester. In doing so, we spread knowledge about Chinese culture to Boston's youth and promoted diversity in the city.



Rafael Hernandez Elementary School in Boston 这是波士顿的Rafael Hernandez小学。

#### My Experience: Ella Johnson

During my first trip to Rafael-Hernandez my group taught third graders about the weather and months. I have never considered myself good at working with kids, so I took a backseat and let my groupmates take the lead. I soon realized I loved interacting with the students. I was pleasantly surprised by how much Chinese the kids remembered, especially since they are only having the lessons once a week. It was difficult to get the class under control at first, but once they settled the lesson went smoothly.



My group mates and I demonstrate how to say the months we were born in.

我和我的同学告诉学生怎么说他们的出生的月。

#### My Experience: Ella Johnson



I take a look at a student's paper to see the character they wrote. 我看着一个学生写的汉字。

My group was fortunate to go back to the same third grade class the next week. We ended up teaching body parts (and the head-shoulders-knees and toes song). I was our groups leader for this trip, and actually felt very comfortable leading the lesson and getting the class under control. It was amazing to form connections with the students and be able to call them by their names. The students we worked with were very bright, and remembered a lot of what we taught them.

#### My Experience: Michael Johns

On my first trip to Rafael Hernandez, I taught weather and months with Sydney and Ella. Because our service was towards the end of the semester, the children had already learned quite a bit, and I was impressed to see they remembered most of it! Although working with children is not my strong suit, I quickly grew comfortable teaching them and enjoyed playing our educational games with them.



We used pictures to teach so the children could remember the vocabulary.
为了孩子能记得生词, 我们用照片教。

#### My Experience: Michael Johns

On my second trip, I was much more comfortable with the kids from the start. so this was my favorite visit to the school. I was tasked with drawing a stick figure along with the students and teaching them how to label certain body parts in Chinese. It was gratifying to see the drawings of the children, which let me know they were indeed learning from me. One student proudly showed me his artwork, and it was rewarding to encourage his self-proclaimed passion for art.



I look at my bad drawing. 我看看我不好的草图。



This is a student's drawing.
这是一个小学生的草图。

## My Experience: Sydney Kimbrough

On my first trip to the school we taught the children colors. There were two classes of second and third graders. Maria and I ended up teaching the third grade class and it seemed like they really enjoyed it and learned a good amount. They were able to recall words from the previous lesson which was really impressive. Their favorite color they learned was pink or "粉红色". We also gave the kids handouts and coloring sheets that they could take home and practice more with.



## My Experience: Sydney Kimbrough

My second trip to the school we ended up teaching the kids weather and months. I got the chance to teach the 3rd graders again and they remembered me from the last time. We taught the kids through a powerpoint with various videos on the months and weather. Afterwards we played a few games so they could actually put what they learned into practice. Overall, I really enjoyed teaching the kids and they were really smart and fun to be around.



### My Experience: Andrew Nguy

On my 2nd trip, we taught different basic body parts and parts of the face. I, again, was thoroughly impressed with how fast the children learned, and were able to pick up the material being taught. I sat aside to help a few students who generally had a bit of difficulty keeping up, and was extremely impressed and proud of how well they did in the end. Overall, the experience was wonderful. To the right is a picture of the diagram we used to teach the body parts.

