

April 28, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter of recommendation on behalf of Andrew Marikis. I have worked with Andrew since August 2020 in the second grade classroom at Baker Demonstration school in Wilmette, Illinois.

Our students appreciate the energy Andrew brings to our classroom. His background as a teaching artist has stuffed his toolkit with classroom management techniques and team building activities. Additionally, he is well equipped to learn and implement new technology quickly. This has been a terrific help to me throughout pandemic curriculum and instruction. Andrew is always mindful of children's student services support plans. His differentiation strategies are strong and varied, and always front of mind in his planning.

A recent project based learning activity Andrew developed was an "Adopt-a-creature" pet shop. This was his solution to make practice adding and subtracting within 100 more enjoyable. Our students were enthralled for weeks with the many directions this project took!

On a twice weekly basis Andrew leads guided reading groups. Recently, our students have been inspired by Andrew's gifted storytelling skills. We are so lucky to have his numerous talents in second grade. Andrew is proficient in content knowledge and application of content in all subject areas. At the center of Andrew's practice is DEI work. He is always mindful of ensuring his lessons incorporate windows and mirrors for our diverse student population. I have learned so much from him in this area.

Andrew's exuberance and expertise will make him an asset to any school community. It has been a pleasure teaching with him.

Sincerely,

Aimee Martin  
Second Grade Teacher  
Baker Demonstration School