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Reflection Journal Entry #3
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Word Lessons

After teaching my word lesson on gyroscopes, I can see where these mini lessons can motivate and inspire students to read. I feel that fascination is a state of mental high that influences me to learn and acquire more, even sometimes to the neglect of other things I should be concentrated on. Living with the internet makes the gathering of descriptions, histories, charts, graphs, photographs, opinions, and trials more easily.

In choosing a word to teach, my partner and I searched quite a while for a word that was motivating, was easily demonstrated, which contained new material for students to build on existing knowledge, and which contained applications or relevance to the readings that they were unaware of. I feel that some groups; although they taught well, would have been more effective given a better choice of a word. I just don't feel motivated learning about a word that I have already understood coming into the classroom. Subconsciously, lessons on topics I feel that I already know about takes away from my desire to read, because there isn't any expectation that I will read about anything new. Why would I waste my time reading about something I have convinced myself I already understand? I haven't realized it until now, but this has haunted me many times in the past. If a teacher's lesson failed to contain anything that built on my understanding of what I already knew, I didn't read because I felt I was ahead of the class. When exam time came around, I wished I had read the material.

As a teacher, I will need to keep it in mind that unless students feel the challenge and curiosity of new material, it will be difficult to get them to read. I will have to continuously be more creative and either stay current on new technologies, or assign students the task of reading and acquiring concepts on new technologies.