

Qualifications

Education

- Masters Degree, Wheelock College
- Orton-Gillingham, IMSLEC
- Moderate Needs Certification, K-12
- Project Read, Carroll School
- IDA Certified Dyslexia Practitioner

Teaching

- Special Needs Teacher, Lexington
- Literacy Teacher, Metco, Boston
- Reading Specialist, Bedford
- Learning Specialist, Weston

Approach to Teaching

- Multi-sensory
- Sequential
- Developmental
- Multiple Intelligences
- Responsive Classroom

No Matter What Accomplishment You Make, Someone Helps You

Althea Gibson

TEACHING EXPERIENCE, MA Certification # 38300

- 2017-2007 **Learning Specialist/Private Tutor, K-12:** Acton, Bedford, Concord, Lexington, Lincoln, Littleton, Sudbury, Wayland, Weston
- Design evidence-based, sequential, multi-sensory (kinesthetic, auditory, tactile, visual) lessons and extended learning assignments for individual students and small groups. Teach evidence-based reading, writing, studying and test taking strategies. Teach essay writing for high school students. Consult regularly with parents and specialists. Attend IEP meetings upon request. Write progress reports upon request.
- 2017 **Reading Specialist,** Dedham Country Day School, Dedham, MA
Taught evidence based reading to grades 1-3, small groups and 1-1. Long-term substitute.
- 2017 **Special Needs Teacher,** Arlington Public School Summer School
Design reading, writing and math lessons based on IEP goals for students in grades 2-4. Direct instruction, communication with specialists, teachers and families. Progress reports.
- 2015 **Special Needs Teacher-Learning Center,** John Glenn Middle School, Bedford, MA, Grades 6-8,
Created calm and encouraging environment; Taught direct instruction for reading to small groups and 1:1 based on IEP goals; Administered PARCC and MCAS tests; Updated progress reports; Aspen; Long term substitute.
- 2014 **Special Needs Teacher-Resource Room,** Diamond Middle School
Provided a supportive and calm environment for grades 6-8; 17 students received academic, organizational and study strategies support based on their IEPs goals. Prepared IEPs. Attended IEP meetings; Aspen; Long term substitute
- 2010-Present **Substitute teacher, Lexington, Weston**
- 2008-2011 **Literacy Consultant, Metco, Roxbury**
- 2004-2006 **Learning Specialist, Meadowbrook School, Weston**
Orton Gillingham Tutor, Masonic Children's Center, Lexington

EDUCATIONAL COURSES/PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 2001-Present Liven Up Your Sentence Writing! A Bridge to Narrative and Expository Writing; Cognitive Neuroscience and Dyslexia; The Language of Math, ADHD and Learning; Summer Slide, Glide, or Gain; Dyslexia Interventions; The Brain, Metacognition, and the OG Approach; Common Core Writing SRSD (Self Regulated Strategy Development); Understanding ADD/ADHD, Dr. Edward Hallowell; Metacognition's Effect on Reading Comprehension and Written Expression; Language and Literacy Instruction for English Language Learners, Elsa Cardenas-Hagan; The Impact of Reading Aloud to Dogs, Assistive Technology in Education; Orton-Gillingham; Project Read; Expository Writing Instruction; Creative Nonfiction: Researching, Writing, Revising and Common Core; Educational Evaluations; The Role of Executive Functioning; Science and Neurobiology: Developmental Dyslexia; Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder; Behavior Management and School Accommodations; Recent Developments in Special Education Law; Remediation and Accommodations for Dyslexia and ADHD, Medications for ADHD, Assessment and Testing; Teaching Vocabulary to Increase Comprehension; Reading First: 3 Keys to Note-taking; Literacy and Diverse Learners; The Impact of Special Needs

GRADUATE EDUCATION

- 2000-2001 **Wheelock College, Boston, MA**
- Masters Degree, Education
 - **Awards: Wheelock Community Award for contributions to the well-being of children and families**
 - **Winner: Massachusetts Disney Educational Student Scholarship for language arts unit**

Assessment: • Testing, Observation, Portfolio, Running Records, Multiple Intelligences, Responsive Classroom

Interests: International Dyslexia Association, Blanding's Turtles, Salamander Crossings, Nature Observation, Libraries, Artic National Wildlife Refuge, MA Audubon, Cornell Ornithology, AMC, Raptor Migration, Organic Gardening