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ENC 2135

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Research Proposal

1. What important texts exist in the best buddies community and how are they functioning within it?
2. My working title for my project is “The Importance of Best Buddies: Students with Special Needs.”

To anyone who doesn’t know best buddies, its an amazing club that helps build close nit relationships between people with disabilities and those who do not. It is a very uplifting and joyful club that I would love to be a apart of, which is why it is a focus of my project.

1. My project will focus on the highlights of why a club like best buddies is of such high importance and why focusing on the lives of others is such a beneficial thing. I plan to join the best buddies club here at FSU and learn what it is that they do within their own community and in Tallahassee as a whole.

One reason that I am driven towards this community is that I am inspired by people with living and learning disabilities and how they face their everyday challenges. I believe clubs like this are designed to provide support and friendship, bringing a community together.

For the research-based portion, I will focus on developmental studies on how children, specifically with disabilities, develop their learning skills in and outside of the classroom. There are many aspects that help children begin to develop basic skills, and I want to take this topic further and extend it to special education.

Best buddies will provide me with a foundation for this, on why children with disabilities learn in the ways they do and what makes them most comfortable. Texts within best buddies most often will relate to communication. Communication is very important when interacting with those with disabilities, and this is one thing I am most excited about.

1. I chose this topic mostly because I take a certain interest in how children learn and how people’s brains develop when learning, and relating it to special education provides a different take on this. I worked as a tutor to special needs students in middle school and was involved in the best buddies club throughout high school, where I built many special friendships. It was definitely a community then and I expect nothing different now.
2. Working with disabled / special educational people can be a difficult process at times. A disease such as down syndrome can be unpredictable, or difficult to understand. It is key to build a trusting relationship with those who you are interacting with, but also important to know what that person likes/dislikes to avoid initial conflict.