My Journey through EDU 314 had many ups and downs. Looking back over the semester, I have to say that it was a rewarding experience, even with its rough spots. I have learned so much about computers that will help me in my classroom. The only programs that I used before were Microsoft Word and Power Point. I thought that I knew all I needed, but I learned a few tricks that make Microsoft Word easier.

Learning how to use Nvu and WS\_FTP was frightening at the beginning, but as time went by, it was easier to use. The problems that I had were learning how to save everything in to my EDU 314 and some trouble with things looking different from one computer to the next. I thought that in order to create a website, you had to be a computer wizard and I realized that was not the case. I am looking forward to creating a website for my classroom that parents can access to see what is happening in my classroom.

The project that frustrated me the most was the WebQuest. Not so much gathering the information as having a problem with the Font and uploading it to the internet and it looking completely different on Cortland’s computers than on mine. It was hard enough trying to find the time to do the WebQuest once let alone trying to go back and redo it. I will never change the font again, no matter how much I like the way it looks.

This class has forced me to try programs that I probably wouldn’t have attempted if it wasn’t required. I really learned a lot about Microsoft Word, Publisher, WS\_FTP, Puzzlemaker, Paint, and Digital Storytelling . I thought Paint was just to use for fun, but now I know that it is an important program.

As far as working in groups, I chose not to because of my schedule. I am a non-traditional student and only on campus two days a week and most of my classmates were about 20 years younger than me. I work better by myself, because I have four children and my schedule doesn’t work well for other people as I do most of my work very late at night and into the wee hours of the morning.

My hope for my future classroom is to incorporate as much computer technology as possible. I would like to continue to learn about all of the programs that are out there because I have learned through this class, that they are not as hard to learn as I originally thought.

Overall, this class was one of the best that I took this semester. Had you asked me that earlier in the semester, I would have told you that you were crazy. But, after thinking about how much I actually learned in this class, I am quite proud of what I did as well as what I hope to accomplish in the future. ---------------Mary