Mentor's Introduction

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Lisa's research is a kind of testimony of experienced collaboration. The chapters in her dissertation convey some of what can happen in a gifted and talented way when older elementary students begin to think about their art after working deliberately on one self-sustained project for months. Lisa connects being an artist to the students' stories and both of these to the discoveries her students were making. When the students signaled their readiness to broaden the depth of involvement in their projects, make them more personal and detailed, Lisa shared with them techniques and skills and stories of making her art. Lisa worked from this juncture of teaching and doing research. Lisa took on a vivid interpretation of gifted and talented through her ability to connect students to their valuing their own efforts to learn.