

My Hometown Hero

by Chris Hart

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Do you have a hero in your community? Well, Mrs. Gail Hammond is mine. This is why she's so unique.

Mrs. Hammond is very good-natured. All the kids in her class think she's the greatest gifted teacher that ever walked on the earth. We do many exhilarating things in her class, such as: thinking skills, manipulatives, chess, and studying Greek Gods. Not only does Mrs. Hammond have things for us to do with our hands, but she also has stuff for us to watch! Everyday we're either observing something about the constitution, space, or the Parthenon in Athens. She pushes us to use critical thinking skills to find answers. She is also very perceptive. She notices and points out ways that people mispronounce words and thinks of stimulating things for us to do.

Mrs. Hammond has earned National Board Certification for Teachers and was selected for Mississippi Hall of Master Teachers. Among other awards, she was chosen the top gifted educator in the U.S. by the National Association for Gifted Children and named to Who's Who Among America's Teachers.

Not only does Mrs. Hammond help her students by teaching them but she also helps the community. She plans community service projects for her students to participate in, such as Warm Hands Warm Hearts, where students collect mittens, gloves, hats, socks and blankets for area shelters.

As I hope you can see, Mrs. Hammond is a sensational gifted teacher. She wouldn't miss Venture for anything! That's why she's my Hometown Hero.