



School Environment Survey

Block I Field Experience

Directions: The following questions are to be answered by interviewing your cooperating teacher and making observations in the school and your classroom. Responses to the questions must be kept as an electronic document and a hard copy must be brought to your first block class after your initial week in the school.

Technology

1. What hardware platform is in use in this school? Are all computers Internet ready?
2. What hardware is available including peripherals in your classroom? What software is available for classroom use?
3. Do students and/or teachers have Email accounts? How frequently are their accounts used and for what purposes?
4. How does your classroom teacher use technology with his/her students? How does your classroom teacher use technology for his/her own professional use?
5. What are the components of the school's Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)?
6. When a teacher encounters problems with technology hardware or software to whom does he/she report these difficulties? Who resolves these problems?

Science

1. Which of the content areas that you teach do you enjoy the most?
2. What science topics do children seem to enjoy? Why do you think they like these so well?
3. Do you find that one gender likes science better than the other? If so, why do you think so?

Mathematics

1. Which of the mathematics topics that you teach do you enjoy the most?
2. What mathematics topics do children seem to enjoy? Why do you think they like these so well?
3. Do you find that one gender likes mathematics better than the other? If so, why do you think so?
4. List math manipulatives you observed in the classroom. Indicate which ones were used by the teacher and/or the students.

Social Studies

1. What methods have you found to be the most effective in the teaching of social studies?
2. What resource do you most often use in the teaching of social studies?
3. What types of information do you gather about the families and community that help you teach the children social studies?
4. How do you incorporate current events?

Reading / Language Arts

1. What types of reading TO, WITH, and BY children occur in your classroom?
2. What stages of natural learning (Cambourne, 1988) did you observe?
3. How are spelling and writing taught?

Management

1. Sketch the seating arrangement. Include the teacher's desk, library area, centers, computers, student desks, etc.
2. List the class rules. How were these rules determined? Are rules posted?
3. Obtain a copy of the school handbook. What kind of information is contained in the handbook?
4. What plan is in place to deal with a violent student? Who would come to your assistance to deal with a violent student?

Assessment

1. How did your teacher keep track of what was accomplished and handed in?
2. Obtain a copy of the report card used for your class.
3. Choose three to five students for whom you will make anecdotal comments. Each day make anecdotal comments for these students. If in a middle school, select one class. Summarize your findings for each student (use student's first name only).