

Questions for Early Childhood Candidates

1. Please briefly review your early childhood background and experience. What motivated you to focus your studies on Early Childhood?
2. There is a lot of discussion about “developmentally appropriate practice”. How would we see DAP reflected in what you do in the classroom? Are there differences in how this is applied in early childhood special education classrooms as opposed to community preschool programs?
3. What is transdisciplinary teaming? How would it be implemented on IEP goals in the classroom?
4. How would you collect information and data on student progress on IEP goals in the classroom?
5. Situation: One of your students has a goal of increasing his social interaction skills with peers. What would you do to facilitate progress in this area?

6. Situation: You have a 3 year old child with autistic characteristics and limited verbalizations. How do you program for this student within your classroom?

7. Please comment on your experience and knowledge in the following areas:

Literacy /whole language development

Math Their Way

High Scope or other cognitively orientated curriculums

Facilitated communication

Adaptive equipment

Alternative assessment techniques (ie, play-based, arena, performance)

8. Describe your philosophy regarding behavior management and how it would be reflected in the classroom.

Questions for Early Childhood Candidates

Additional Questions:

1. You and a parent have differing views on the skills that his/her child has demonstrated. How do you deal with this situation?
2. You and a parent disagree on an instructional approach that should be used with his/her child. How do you deal with this situation?
3. As a new teacher in the program, how would you begin to plan the instructional program for your students?
4. In what areas of what ways would you want support as you begin your teaching in our school district?
5. What are your three most important reasons for wanting to be a teacher?
6. If I walked into your classroom in October, what would I see in terms of the physical environment?

7. What special qualities, skills and/or experiences do you believe you have that you want to mention?
8. Think of a successful teacher you have known. What made him/her so?
9. What would you do if you disagreed with one of your team members on an issue related to a student?
10. What strategies would you use to manage a child who is physically aggressive toward other children? Who is passive and not very involved in class?
11. In what ways would you like to work with related services staff to create or adapt programs for your students?
12. What do you think would be important to look for in a screening process?

Questions from the group