

Describe Artifact

For my Guidance and Assessment class, we were required to write a developmental assessment paper on a student in our pre-student teaching placements. For my minor in Special Education the person I observed had to be a student with special needs. In my third grade classroom, I worked with a student who has Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) and Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder (ADHD). After weeks of observing Mike's (name has been changed) physical, social, and emotional development, I was able to effectively compare his developmental level to that of the other students in the classroom. I also gathered information from him and his teachers about his interests and home life. I feel this is very important when assessing a student, because one needs to know what a student's past experiences are to better explain their developmental needs. Once I completed my assignment on Mike's developmental level, I was then able to adapt my lessons to better fit his needs.

Alignment Reflection

Wisconsin Teacher Standard Alignment

This artifact addresses standard two on development. In completing this assignment, I had to consider the student's three domains of development. Through observation and comparing Mike to the other students in the class, I was able to make conclusions on where I believed he was developmentally. After making my conclusions and forming a developmental assessment of the student, it became easier to adapt assignments and meet the child's developmental needs. Though I only completed this assessment for one of the children in the classroom, making these observations helped me to realize how important it is to know every

student's developmental needs. From that point on I tried to assess every student's individual needs to adapt each lesson to their learning styles.

UW-Platteville School of Education Knowledge, Skill, Disposition Statement Alignment

This artifact best aligns with KSD1.b, which focuses on a teacher knowing the developmental level of the students. Through my developmental assessment, I have demonstrated I have knowledge of a student's development, styles of learning, interests, past experiences and cultural background in order to teach to a student's characteristics. One reason why my artifact aligns best with this KSD is that I have proven that I can properly use my observations to draw conclusions about the students in a classroom. The KSD also states that the teacher has knowledge of each child's learning style, which I have demonstrated by making observations on Mike and then drawing conclusions on how he learns best. By knowing his learning style I was able to make lessons more beneficial to him, because I was able to adapt to his individual needs.

Personal Reflection

What I learned about teaching/learning from this experience.

The developmental assessment paper was a great learning experience for me as a prospective teacher. Though it was only a paper about one student, it helped me to realize the importance of assessing student's developmental levels. When I began to observe the child with special needs I took note of where he was physically, socially, emotionally, and intellectually. With these observations I was able to make my curriculum more adaptable to the child with

special needs to ensure that he was receiving the best way to learn. If a lesson is taught that is not developmentally appropriate, the students will most likely fall behind in class. This may happen because the lesson is too difficult for them, or it may lead to misbehavior because the lesson bores the student. Though there will be students at either end of the developmental level spectrum, an appropriate lesson can be developed to meet the needs of all the students.

What I learned about myself as a prospective educator as a result of this experience/artifact:

In writing a developmental assessment, on a child with special needs, I have grown as a teacher in understanding children's development. It is important for me to make a curriculum that fits the needs of every child in the classroom. From this artifact I learned how useful it is to understand each child individually so that it is possible to effectively teach the class as a whole. I have learned that if I assess each child's developmental needs in the classroom then I will be improving the student's ability to be more successful in the classroom.