

EDUC 341

Field Experience Handbook

Fall 2018

EDUC 341: Elementary Curriculum Science

Field Experience Assignment(s):

Week 1 - In Pairs

Science Demonstration. Candidates (in pairs) will conduct a science demonstration with children that involves exploring and discussing a given phenomenon/event. The goal for this assignment is for EDUC341 students to get a feel for how children think about and explain natural events and begin to acquire confidence in discussing scientific ideas with them in preparation for a more involved teaching experience in field week 3.

Science Teaching Topic. Candidates, in consultation with their clinical educator, will choose a science topic that they will assess children on in Week 2, and teach in Week 3. The science topic should be agreed upon with the clinical educator in Week 1 of the field experience in order to prepare assessments and lessons for Weeks 2 and 3.

Week 2 - Individual

Small Group Discussion Assignment. Candidates, with their teaching partners, will plan a guided discussion about science content, then individually conduct small group discussions with 3-4 children to assess their prior knowledge. See syllabus for specific details. The topic of the discussion must be the same as the Week 3 science lesson and chosen in consultation with the clinical educator and 341 instructor. Topics for these assignments should be agreed upon with the clinical educator in Week 1 of the field experience in order to prepare assessments and lessons for Weeks 2 and 3.

Week 3 - In Pairs

Science Lesson. The topic for this lesson will be selected during the first field week, in consultation with the clinical educator. Candidates will plan and teach the lesson together. The lesson will feature the development of a scientific claim to investigate; the use of science materials, readings and/or media resources to collect evidence to evaluate the claim; and evaluation of the validity of the claim in light of the findings. Candidates will also administer a single-question pre and post assessment to students. Details on acceptable formats will be discussed in class.