

ECE 203: Mathematics in Early Childhood Education

Dr. K. A. Korb

Practicum (15 points)

DUE: 24 March 2021

Purpose

The purpose of the Practicum for you to practice mathematizing children's everyday routines and play by building on the natural opportunities to apply maths to children's everyday activities. You will choose one child between 3 and 7 years of age and observe the child for 2 hours. (Note: The hours do not have to be continuous. You could observe the child for 2 hours on 1 day or 1 hour on 2 different days.) If you need assistance in selecting a child, contact Dr Korb and she will make arrangements for you to connect with a child. Note that the observation should *not* be while the child is in class. Instead, observe the child while they are engaged in daily routines (e.g., chores around the house) or free-choice play.

Tasks

Step 1: Observe the child for a minimum of 2 hours. Take notes on what the child is doing and the start time for each activity. As you are observing the child, consider how to apply developmentally appropriate maths concepts into the activity that the child is engaged in. This can be either in the form of a question (e.g., What shape is your plate?) or a challenge to do a task (e.g., Let's make a circle out of these stones).

Step 2: Write your report with the following headers.

Part A. Background Information.

Write 1 paragraph describing the child, including their age, gender, family background, socio-economic status, and educational background. Note that you should **NOT** write the child's name to protect the privacy of the child. Instead, either use a pseudonym (fake name) or say "The child."

Write 1 paragraph describing the context of the observation. Include the date and exact time you started and stopped observing the child. Describe where you observed the child and any other details needed to understand the child's activities.

Part B. Mathematizing

Write your analysis of mathematizing the child's activities using the table below. In the first column, record the time. In the second column, briefly describe what the child was doing. In the third column, write the maths question or challenge that you would use to mathematize the child's activity. In the fourth column, identify which strand of maths that the child would be practicing. The first two rows are an example.

Time	Child's Activity	Mathematize	Strand of Maths
8am	Eating breakfast of kosai and pap.	How many pieces of kosai do you have?	Number and Operations
8.15am	Washing plates	How many cups of water will it take to fill the flask?	Measurement

Be sure to include at least 8 different questions or challenges in the Mathematize column from at least 3 different strands of maths.

Part C. Reflection

Write 1 to 2 paragraphs about what you learned about mathematics learning for children based on this experience.

Evaluation

Each assignment will be evaluated based on the following.

- Background Information (2 points)
- Mathematizing tasks were thoughtful and accurate (8 points)
- Thoughtful reflection (5 points)