



Specific Requirements for Professional Experience

EDEC355: Young children as Mathematicians PrEx 10 days

This professional experience placement is a 10 day block professional experience with **children aged 3 to 5 year olds**. The placement can occur in your current service. During this 10 day professional experience you are expected to immerse yourself in the life of the early childhood service and develop your understanding not only of teaching and learning in the early childhood context, but also of the wider context of the service. Your professional experience is aligned with the goals and intent of the Early Years Learning Framework and the Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority.

Upon successful completion of this professional experience, you should be able to:

1. identify and demonstrate how theory, research and practice can lead to a better comprehension of children's problem solving skills;
2. plan for young children's mathematical thinking across a variety of environments and contexts;
3. support children's problem solving and mathematical learning using a play based integrated curriculum focus and using available technology;
4. plan, implement and evaluate relevant curriculum and guidelines;
5. demonstrate autonomy and judgement to professional standards of communication, modelling skills applicable in a professional career; and
6. demonstrate the ability to act professionally when working with young children.

During the professional experience, while you will be assigned to a supervising teacher and his/her group, you are also expected to seek opportunities to visit other groups, with the agreement of both your supervising teacher and the other room leader(s), in order to observe a range of strategies. Check that your supervising teacher has received the professional experience documents via email.

During the first few days the focus is on watching and interacting with children in order to build relationships. This extended period of observation is necessary for you to observe modelling of activities, interactions and teacher responses prior to commencing any teaching of your own. In this professional experience you should be ready, with your supervising teacher's guidance, to take group activities in the second week.

The specific tasks for this professional experience are outlined in the next section.

No student may COMMENCE a professional experience placement prior to the beginning date which has been allocated for Trimester 1.

Week 1 of professional experience

Discuss your assignment with your supervising teacher. You may complete your placement in relation to the first or second assignment.

Spend most of the first week observing, collecting information, and building relationships with the children and their families. Make sure you have written permission to observe the child/children. These observations may include written notes, artwork, and other forms of documentation (for example, observing and recording children's learning, play, and interactions, followed by the implementation of appropriate planning).

No identifiable photographs will be taken of your child, and a pseudonym will be used at all times in your documentation.

In Week 1 of your placement you will be required to carry out **two tasks**:

Task 1: write two journal entry, on day 2 and 4 relating to a spontaneous maths interaction you have been involved in with a child or children. Briefly describe the setting, what the children said and did, and how you responded and supported one or more mathematical concept skills. Write a brief reflection outlining what you did well, and what you could do better next time.

Task 2- Identify and list the mathematical resources available that you have observed while the children were engaged in play.

- ✓ A format can be found at the end of this document, *or* you can create your own.

Task 2: Make a list of all math resources you can identify in the environment (inside out outside). Ensure you include incidental resources (such as, for example, shell collections or items in home corner, block corner, sandpit etc.), as well as commercially available math resources.

By the end of the week, meet with your supervising teacher to review and complete your Interim Report. Use this opportunity for critical self reflection and seek feedback on your strengths and areas for improvement during your placement. Both you and your supervising teacher can use this discussion to reflect and evaluate your progress., Your Evidence Log will be helpful in this process - reflect on the plans you have implemented so far and collaborate with your supervising teacher on a proposed plan for the upcoming week.

The Interim Report template is provided as a link in a separate email sent to the supervising teacher along with the UNE placement confirmation package. Please contact oplreports@une.edu.au, if you have yet to receive access to the Interim Report.

<p>Week 2 of professional experience</p>	<p>Continue to work on your assignment and to build relationships with children.</p> <p>In the second week you must plan and implement two play-based math experiences based on your observation of an incidental event in your placement (possibly something recorded in your journal in Week 1). Please use the template below to plan and reflect on your experience. The second plan MUST be a follow-up/extension of your first plan but may also introduce new mathematical concepts.</p> <p>Complete a reflection of your experience.</p> <p>Meet your supervising teacher about your Professional Experience Final Report and ask about any areas of strength or improvement you may have or need to address in future placements. Ensure the supervising teacher is provided with the Attendance Sheet (if required) so it can be included as part of the final Professional Experience Report and placement assessment.</p> <p>Students will complete the Preservice Teacher Response section within the Final Professional Experience Report; to acknowledge the completion of the Report, this is also sent as a link in a separate email to Students myune account.</p> <p>Please contact oplreports@une.edu.au, if you have yet to receive access to the Final Report.</p> <p>The Professional Experience Report must be submitted within two weeks of the final day of the placement and will not be marked completed until the Attendance Sheet (if required) is submitted and the Preservice Teacher Response section is also completed.</p>
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TASK 1: Journal entries

	Journal entry	Reflection
Day 2 Date:		
Day 4 Date:		

TASK 2: Available mathematical resources

LEARNING EXPERIENCE PLANNING TEMPLATE

PLAN 1

Day:

Small/Large group (number):

Time:

Mathematical Concept/Skill:

Rationale

How is this experience linked to your supervising teacher's program?

Describe the incidental event that initiated the intentional play experience.

How is this experience linked to your observations/journal entries?

Learning outcomes

Developmental learning outcome: Write at least two developmental learning outcomes that you hope the children to achieve.

EYLF learning outcomes: Write at least one EYLF learning outcome that specifically relates to your experience and explain *how* it relates.

Experience

Motivation: Introduction/How will I engage the children?

Main Body: Describe the plan

Closure: How will you conclude the experience?

Environment

Preparation: What do you need to prepare for a safe and engaging environment?

Resources: What do you need for this experience?

Reflection

To what extent were the learning outcomes achieved?

How well did I use: space?
time?
people?
resources?

Next time I would/would not?

Follow-up/extension

How will this experience be followed up or extended upon in another lesson plan?

**LEARNING EXPERIENCE PLANNING TEMPLATE
PLAN 2**

Day: Small/Large group (number):

Time: Mathematical Concept/Skill:

Rationale

How is this experience linked to your supervising teacher's program?

Describe the incidental event that initiated the intentional play experience.

How is this experience linked to your observations/journal entries?

Learning outcomes

Developmental learning outcome: Write at least two developmental learning outcomes that you hope the children to achieve.

EYLF learning outcomes: Write at least one EYLF learning outcome that specifically relates to your experience and explain *how* it relates.

Experience

Motivation: Introduction/How will I engage the children?

Main Body: Describe the plan

Closure: How will you conclude the experience?

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Preparation: What do you need to prepare for a safe and engaging environment?

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Reflection

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