

EVALUATION

This practicum requires Wartburg students to be formally observed two times by the cooperating director or teacher and twice by the Wartburg College supervisor. The forms used for evaluation purposes will be delivered by the students on the first official day of the practicum. The performance components are based on the following:

1. Shows initiative.
2. Elicits positive responses.
3. Exhibits professional qualities.
4. Uses effective instructional strategies.
5. Develops developmentally appropriate lessons and activities.
6. Improves interactions/lessons through feedback and reflection.
7. Attempts to accommodate diverse learners.
8. Shows responsibility for time in placement and tasks assumed.
9. Shows promise as a future teacher.
10. Leads and serves within the classroom.

THANK YOU

Thank you for hosting a Wartburg student for the Early Childhood Practicum.

Student name

Student phone

Student email address

will be joining you for this practicum.

Giving of your time and talents to allow this student to participate and teach in your setting is greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the Wartburg School Partnerships Coordinator at 319-352-8406.



ED 481 Early Childhood Practicum

The mission of the Wartburg College Teacher Education Program is to develop the talents and abilities of students to become *effective* and *reflective* teachers in lives of service and leadership as an expression of their faith and learning.



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Early Childhood Practicum

ED 181 EARLY CHILDHOOD PRACTICUM

This 50-hour practicum is designed as an integral part of the half-credit course called Early Childhood: Parent and Community Relations (ED 355). This course and corresponding practicum are required of all education majors who have an early childhood endorsement. The purpose of the Early Childhood Practicum is to provide students obtaining the early childhood endorsement with an opportunity to observe, assist, and teach at a preschool or day care center. This 50-hour practicum is also a requirement for licensure in elementary education with an early childhood endorsement for the Iowa Department of Education.

"...all individuals need a great deal of responsive, supportive adult investment throughout childhood to enable them to construct valued identities in the complex, changing, diverse yet increasingly interactive world in which we live." (Curry & Johnson, 1990)

GOALS

For the Wartburg student participating in your preschool and/or day care, the goals of this practicum include the following:

- Observe children in this type of setting to more fully understand the social, emotional, mental, and physical needs of this age.
- Learn from the teacher/director, through a developmental process, the strategies and activities that are appropriate for this age level.

- Explore the importance of strong family and community partnerships in the early childhood setting.

It is recommended that Wartburg students participate three hours for 18 days at your site during the most "teachable" segment of your day. Most likely this will be comprised of morning hours. An example of a practicum student's daily time log might be from 8:30 to 11:30 or 9:00 to noon. The Wartburg students taking this practicum meet as a class on three days of the week in the afternoon. During this time they learn more about parent and community relations through a variety of resources. These include joint readings, journal article discussions, research, field trips, and/or multiple individuals who share their expertise on this topic.

For some Wartburg students this will be the longest amount of time that these future elementary educators have spent with this age group. The practicum provides them with hands-on opportunities to explore the uniqueness of the preschool-age child.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE WARTBURG STUDENT

- Confirm daily participation time(s).
- Arrive on time and stay for the prearranged time period. If plans change, notify the contact person immediately. The only excused absence is illness or an extreme emergency. Students are to notify both the Wartburg supervisor and the practicum cooperating director or teacher when unable to attend.
- Maintain a log documenting the time and describing your engagements. Include the director or teacher's signature each day.
- Write an overview description of the preschool or day care center.
- Keep a reflective journal each day.

- Write a case study of an individual child.
- Assume responsibilities for preparing lessons and directing children in learning centers and other activities as knowledge is gained of how to work with this age level.
- Be respectful and supportive of children in the early childhood setting by being confidential in all oral or written communication about the setting and students.
- Compose a two-page reflection paper of the total experience.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COOPERATING TEACHER/DIRECTOR

- Introduce the Wartburg student to the group he/she will be completing the practicum with in your setting.
- Discuss any background information necessary for the Wartburg student to know that will assist them in knowing the children better.
- Sign the time-log sheet daily.
- Clearly assign the Wartburg student responsibilities that are appropriate as they grow in their developmental process of working with this age level.
- Assess the Wartburg student twice throughout the practicum. Complete a mid-term and final evaluation. You are encouraged to share the evaluation forms with the student.
- Contact the Wartburg Education department immediately if any questions, concerns, or problems arise.