

Journal Entries

Student's Name

Institution Affiliation

Course Name

Professor

Date Due

SAMPLE

Journal Entries

Play with the language of science



I took this photo when I was enjoying myself in the outdoors. It was a bright and sunny day, and having enjoyed myself so much, I couldn't help thinking how such a great outdoor environment would help me teach scientific concepts to my learners. I thought about how effective guided nature walks at the park would be. The learners would love to see the plants, bugs and other elements of nature. They would also explore their senses, where they would get to touch, hear, smell and observe their natural environment. The EYLF practices posit that the

student's learning environment needs to be conducive and favourable for the learners needs (The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia, 2022). The learners would enjoy touching the leaves and flowers as much as I did on this day. They would also enjoy exploring their other senses, which leads to better learning outcomes. The learners would also get a chance to conduct outdoor experiments, which would help them understand scientific concepts like floating and sinking better. After our visit to the park, each of the learners would get an opportunity to share what they learned outdoors, which is a great way to assess what the students learned. I believe that comprehension and retention for the science concepts learned outdoors will be better.

Play with the language of mathematics



As I was doing my own personal studying, I stopped to think about the struggles I was having trying to comprehend what I was studying. I have a busy schedule trying to balance my work, family, and stud, which makes personal studying all the much harder. As such, I need to take breaks occasionally to ensure that I am not getting overwhelmed by what I am studying. As an adult, I experience challenges trying to grasp hard concepts, which made me think about my young learners. Learning new mathematics concepts may be somewhat difficult for some of my learners, which is why I need to find an effective way to teach these concepts.

First, I would make sure to integrate math into these learners' daily activities (Knaus, 2017). Doing so would help the learners ease their anxiety about mathematics while helping them grasp the concepts faster. For example, I would ask my learners to count their snacks, and sort their toys based on their sizes, among others. We could also play games in the classroom to enhance their mathematics skills like counting, and using relevant visual aids. I believe these strategies apply to me as well, because when I apply the content I learn in the classroom in every day life, it becomes easier for me to remember it.

Play and meaning-making with the language of movement



On this day, I had taken a walk with my friends and I enjoyed being up and about. It was such a great day because as we explored new places, we had a great deal of physical exercise and laughed a lot. I like that we were adorned in our cultural outfit, which gave me a significant sense of identity. I would want to make my teaching environment conducive for movement and learning, and there are various approaches I feel would suffice with my learners. One of the things I can do in my classroom is to incorporate music and dance. We could play multiple varieties of music in class where we could dance and move to the rhythm. During this time, the learners are allowed to experiment with different dances, experiment with their choreography and I will also dance with them. Imaginative play in this case will also be very effective, where the learners use props and wear costumes to tell various stories, while moving to re-enact different scenarios and have different adventures (Grimer, 2019). Some of the other activities that would be ideal in this case include having obstacle challenges, where the children get to overcome several physical activities through balancing on beams and going through tunnels, among others. Doing so allows for better balance and coordination, while allowing the learners to move around (Archer and Siraj, 2015).

Play with the language of technology



In this image, I was checking my email and scheduling a zoom meeting I was supposed to have later during the day. During this time, I found myself asking what I would do if I did not have my computer with me to make work easier. I believe learners need to interact with technology early enough, and the best way to ensure that they become confident when using technology is to introduce it early enough. I intend to achieve this outcome by introducing the learners to technology devices that are appropriate for their age. They will spend some time during the class to interact with technology devices under supervision. Doing so is effective in building up the learners curiosity and allowing them to become more versatile. The EYLF guidelines are focussed on ensuring that the child becomes a life-long learner (The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia, 2022). In addition, it allows the learner to become a vital resource to the society. However, while introducing technology in learning, I will ensure that I collaborate and partner with all the stakeholders associated with the student's learning. As such, I will need to seek permission from the children's parents and get their point of view about the new technology tools I intend to introduce in the classroom. Further, I will keep these parents involved in their children's learning through frequent communication.

How personal/social/cultural perspectives have informed my understanding of health, wellbeing and risk

In this image, I was taking time away from my busy schedule to read. I take self-care very seriously, so I ensure that I do something that I enjoy doing as a form of self-care. Self-care is a significant aspect of maintaining good mental health (McGuffog et al., 2022). Teaching young learners can get overwhelming sometimes, and failure to achieve a proper balance can lead to stress and burnout (Penning, 2018). Aside from reading, I like to go to the spa and take hikes as a way to rejuvenate after a hard week. I intend to teach my learners about simple ways they can look after themselves by doing the things that they like. As such, I need to be a keen observer about the things the children like to do in the classroom, their interests and their strengths, so that I can encourage the learners to do these things more.



Previous Assessment 1

I went to Coronation Park on March 20, 2024, in the middle of the morning. It is located at 18 Helena St., Auburn, NSW 2144, Australia. I went to the park in the morning because it's conveniently located near my place of residence. It was a peaceful day overall, with a clear sky, a cool breeze, and a clear, not too cold morning. When I first entered the park, the serene atmosphere immediately caught my attention. I believe this was caused by the lush, well-kept

grass, which made strolling on it feel wonderful. Beautiful trees that are home to several bird species may also be found in the park. In this instance, the park's vegetation and animals both drew me in and greatly enhanced its atmosphere. In summary, I was drawn to the park's flora and fauna, and the fact that there weren't many people there added to the area's serene atmosphere (Sharmin, 2022). I therefore felt as though I was becoming closer to nature, and after taking some time to meditate, I felt even closer to it.

I was able to think back on the park's past and, more importantly, its original proprietors as I became closer to it. In this instance, the park is located in Auburn, and it has been determined that the Auburn location was historically a significant trading region since the Aboriginal people utilized it as a marketplace to conduct barter trade. The location served as both the principal arena for rituals and the scene of ritualistic fights. This region lay between the Darug interior group and the Eora/Dharawal coastal group's border. In one way or another, the park's previously mentioned features all contribute to our view of it as a pedagogical interaction zone. In this instance, spending time there and establishing a connection with it serves as a reminder that the location has a history even though it may not have always looked this way (Harris, 2020). This history is defined by hundreds of accounts of events that occurred there prior to the advent of modernity (Harris, 2020).

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