

Questions You May Want to Ask Your Classroom Teacher (not all at once, though).

1. How do you get to know all of your students and their individual strengths?
2. How do you teach classroom routines and expectations?
3. How do you review classroom routines and expectations? How often do you do this?
4. In your opinion, what are some of your most effective classroom management practices?
5. What are some of your students' non-academic needs? How do you support them?
6. How do you support students with behavior struggles?
7. How do you work with the SPED teachers to support your students with IEPs?
8. How do you support students who need more challenge?
9. How do you communicate with parents/families? How often?
10. How often do you collaborate with other teachers? What does this collaboration look like?
11. What kinds of assessments do you use for reading? Comprehension? Math? Writing? Vocabulary? Science? Social studies?
12. How often do you assess?
13. How do you document/record assessment data?
14. How do you support students who are learning English?
15. (If your teacher has any paras) Describe the work that you do to help paraprofessionals as they support your students?
16. How do you use the MN standards when planning for instruction?
17. What strategies do you use to stay organized?
18. How do you plan higher-level thinking questions?
19. How do you make sure that all students participate?
20. How do you group your students for different activities?
21. How do you make sure that you call on/recognize every student, every day?
22. How do you welcome your students each day?
23. How do you end your day on a positive note?

Examples of Activities for Teacher Candidates During Field Experience

1. Observe the *teacher*. What are they doing to pique student interest and engagement? How does the teacher build positive relationships with their students?
2. Observe the *students*. What do you notice about engagement, motivation, collaboration, and cooperation? What do you notice about the outgoing students? What about the quiet students?
3. Observe the *classroom*. What resources are available for students? What is posted on the walls of the classroom? How is the classroom organized for easy flow and effective work?
4. Read aloud a picture book (requirement for LA I, II, III).
5. Take attendance.
6. Wipe/clean desk surfaces and/or manipulatives/materials.
7. Distribute papers.
8. Grade spelling tests, math work, etc.
9. Sit next to a student who has difficulty focusing.
10. Organize manipulatives/materials.
11. Organize the classroom library.
12. Sharpen pencils (don't use noisy sharpeners).
13. Read with a student.
14. Read with a small group of students.
15. Create a Kahoot for your teacher (based on concepts the students are learning).
16. Help create interactive notebook pages.
17. Cut out materials/laminated work.