



# EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

## STUDENT TEACHING FINAL EVALUATION

**Kristen Beyer**

**Undergraduate**

**CARING:** Kristen sets high expectations for herself and the children in her classroom. Through language, role modeling and redirection she promotes cooperation, development of social skills and positive self-esteem. Additionally, Kristen met weekly with her cooperating teacher and participated in lesson planning sessions.

**KNOWLEDGEABLE:** Kristen is informed student teacher that possesses background knowledge of early childhood curriculum. Her lesson plans reflect clearly stated goals and objectives that can be assessed using a wide variety of developmentally appropriate activities. Her teaching unit was presented in an organized and logical manner. It incorporated original ideas and included a curriculum web, pre and post assessments, a daily schedule, an overview of the weekly activities, a resource guide, a letter to families and environmental adaptations. Kristen achieves a nice balance between child initiated and teacher directed activities. She varies her instructional strategies and materials to meet the needs of the individual learner. Kristen sets behavioral expectations in both small and large group formats. She also does a nice job managing transitions through the use of a variety of techniques. Kristen's use of open-ended questions and active listening strategies encourages the children to be divergent thinkers and problem solvers.

**REFLECTIVE:** Kristen successfully completed a weekly journal during her placement. The purpose of which was to develop the habit of reflecting on teaching practice. Included were in-depth studies of two children, reflection on complex interactions among children, adults and the preschool environment, growing skills as a teacher of young children. In addition to the journal, Kristen also demonstrated self-evaluation skills during conferences with the university supervisor.

**PROFESSIONAL DISPOSITIONS:** Kristen is a responsible student teacher that integrates and utilizes feedback from her supervisors. She is professional and appropriate when dealing with staff, parents and children. Kristen has also demonstrated the ability to communicate with parents through both written and verbal communication. Kristen accompanied the CT on home visits and participated in parent teacher conferences, both experiences helped Kristen to make that important home/school connection while gaining insights to help her structure lesson plans and work on behavioral management techniques. In addition to her work in the classroom, Kristen participated in a professional portfolio presentation and interviewing seminar honing her skills as an early childhood professional. Staff meetings and professional development seminars-focusing on a variety of topics were part of her commitment to her student teaching placement.

**DIVERSE:** Diversity is reflected in this preschool environment from the student population to the variety of teaching materials, books and manipulatives. Kristen creates a safe and humane classroom that embraces learning and creativity. She encourages the children to explore their environment and be creative in their thinking and discover the process of learning through play. Through Kristen's modeling and language children learn pro-social behavior and conflict management techniques.

**ASSESSMENT:** Kristen showed mastery in developing a documentation component organized by learning domains. Reinforcing the importance between assessment curriculum and instruction. Kristen also demonstrated the ability to direct staff, plan for individual differences, maintain a flexible schedule for the children, and manage transitions. She also showed initiative, enthusiasm, and a passion for the teaching of young children. Kristen has successfully completed her early childhood student teaching and is recommended for the early childhood endorsement.

*Margaret Polmear Patterson PhD.*  
Margaret Polmear Patterson PhD. University Supervisor EMU/ECE

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