

Standard 3
Educators understand and apply knowledge of student growth and development

My kindergarten practicum at Cilaire Elementary School was comprised of 18 students and contained several non-designated high needs students. There was no Education Assistant time attached to this class. Education Assistants came into to the class sporatically when they were available. To accommodate this situation I had to develop lesson plans knowing that I would not have support and improvise when I did have support. I had to ask EA how much time I had with them, quickly give them a task and work with them to solve student behavioural problems since self-regulation was a key component to learn for kindergarten students. However I also had the opportunity to discuss child development and instruction methods with my sponsor teacher, Education Assistances, other instructors that taught the class and the school principle. There was one student in the class that was required to repeat kindergarten. This decision was very hard for her mother to make and it was very important to specify why she did not meet expectations.