

Final Project

In earlier courses (Literacy, Arts-based Curriculum Design, and Social Studies, you learned the basics of curriculum unit design and accompanying lessons, using the Universal Design for Learning model. In this course, we will build on that knowledge, but focus instead of curriculum “development” through the grade levels of a school. We start from the fundamental idea that science is an integrated study of various facets of the world of matter and energy that includes mathematical knowing, inquiry and exploration, arts-based expression, and the use of appropriate technology.

By Week Three you need to identify a topic connected to the STEAM themes (anchor text, pp. 10-14) you will explore, along with at least three resources you plan to use (these can be online or printed text) for **your learning** (these are NOT classroom resources). By Week Five please turn in your **draft** essay by February 24th (Friday) (Minimum final length 4 double spaced pages) for feedback. Your final project will include

- 1) This essay (proofread & revised), documenting what you learned about your topic and the ideas that will shape your spiral curriculum.
- 2) A spiral curriculum development plan, approximating what is in the anchor text starting on page 22, but with more detail.

Your completed project is DUE no later than Monday March 6th. NHE 119 must be completed in order to enroll in the Capstone experience.

What you should consider **at each Level** (PreK-K; 1-2; 3-5 are suggested levels to work with; you can break this down further if desired):

- The concepts (Big Ideas) that you hope to cover
- What is most important, developmentally, at each level
- Possible subjects for science talks; how you would initiate these
- Inquiry-based science exploration activities that build on what was learned at the prior level (for PreK-K you might talk about the knowledge that children bring with them from the home and how you will build on this)
- Technology experiences
- Relevant math material
- At least three books (picture books, non-fiction books, etc.) appropriate to the topic
- Optional: videos or films
- How you plan to integrate the arts
- How you will include the “intangibles” – ethics, values, purpose, meaning, spirituality, aesthetics, service, etc.
- Potential culminating activities at the end of the multi grade unit.

THESE ARE NOT DETAILED LESSON PLANS (take a breath) ONLY SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES. WHAT IS IN THE ANCHOR TEXT IS A SAMPLE (MORE DETAIL INCLUDED).

THE AIM OF THIS PROJECT IS TO DEMONSTRATE YOUR INTEGRATION OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT IDEAS WITH CURRICULUM PLANS AND SHOW HOW KNOWLEDGE GAINS IN DEPTH AND COMPLEXITY AS CHILDREN MOVE THROUGH THE GRADES.

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