

Tips for Student Teachers

First, and most importantly, feel free to email me at any time if you want ideas, advice, etc.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OeOTurM1XJ4>

- Remember you will need specific permission slips for your edTPA video. Ask your cooperating teacher to get them asap- you will have to give her an original and copy yourself or ask her to get copies for you. All schools have different copying policies- some allow teachers to make their own, but many have teachers put in for copies and the turn around time might not be fast. Keep this in mind when and if you need copies.
- Have another student teacher video tape you, or use a tripod so the teacher is free to circulate and “help”, though she has to be off camera. Very often there are a few students who do not return the permission slip so they can be part of the lesson but not on camera. It is best to have them sit at a table that is not in the camera’s view.
- You may have to “interview” the teacher. If so, do it early. It will give you and the teacher time to answer adequately.

- Once you know the grade you are being placed in, take a look at the standards, especially for the beginning of the year. You might want to look at the prior year standards as well.
- Find out what is the best time to meet with the teacher when students are **not** in the room. It is very difficult to address *your* needs and questions when children are present, especially in September when routines are being established. Some teachers may be willing to meet with you before or after school. Of course it depends on both schedules.
- Check with the teacher regarding what she wants you to do when she is teaching a whole group. Of course you will be observing, but most teachers will want you to work/sit with a needier child and/or circulate.
- When you teach a lesson, without “preaching”, begin by positively and quickly reminding the students that they and you know what is expected. You can begin by saying, “I know how respectful and responsible you always are.”
- When you teach a lesson, ask the teacher if you can create a related bulletin board. Bulletin boards are important and time consuming to create, so most teachers will be happy to let you

do this. Also, be sure to take pictures for your portfolio. Keep copies of some work samples as well.

- If you are considering working as a substitute, you will need to be *recommended* by a principal and most of them will not do so if they have not observed you. Discuss this with your cooperating teacher and/or principal.
- Get to know the staff in the office. They usually have “the ear” of the Principal and can help you meet with her or will remember you if you want to return to sub or drop off a resume.
- Keep a Journal and/or take photographs to help remember ideas/activities/strategies/books/charts, etc. You’ll never remember it all.
- Plan to observe at least once while students are in other classes/specials, such as Art, PE, Science, etc. to expand your observation opportunities.