What should content literacy field experiences look like?

Observation time

While preservice teachers can observe during the first visit to become familiar with the class, they should be actively working with students during the remainder of the field experiences.

Possible experiences that actively engage the preservice teacher

Individual students
- Work with an individual student who was absent and is behind on assignments
- Work with an individual student who needs extra support with understanding the content and with doing the class assignments
- Help a student review for a test
- Demonstrate important study strategies for a particular content area

Small groups
- Monitor collaborative group assignments assigned by the teacher
- Support group lab work in science
- Help small group of math students solve word problems
- Work on projects
- Reinforce previous learning by incorporating specific literacy strategies
- Help students review for a test
- Demonstrate important study strategies for a particular content area

Whole class
- Implement before reading (or learning) strategies to introduce a new topic (e.g., anticipation guide)
- Teach a vocabulary lesson using strategies learning in the course
- Help the whole class understand a concept presented in a text by creating a graphic organizer or semantic feature analysis grid
- Teach students the relationship between questions and answers to help them find the answers to questions (i.e., QARs—Question-Answer Relationships)
- Help students review for a test
- Demonstrate important study strategies for a particular content area