

School Nurse Experience Reflection Questions

1. How has your view of the student population changed? I wouldn't say that this experience necessarily changed my view of the student population, but it opened my eyes to how many kids deal with chronic illnesses. I was amazed because the kids who had diabetes were so knowledgeable about their disease and how to manage it.
2. How has your view of the school nurse role changed? It was very different that the role of the traditional floor nurse from what I saw. The system for pulling medications was stricter in some areas and more relaxed in others. I also noticed that the school nurse deals with a lot more than just kids getting sick and needing medicine. They must coordinate care with the parents and are a lot more involved in making sure the kids get exactly what they need.
3. What surprised you about the school nurse experience? I was surprised at how jaded my nurse was. She was short with the kids at some times and then would turn around and be sweet to them within the same conversation. She even made it a point to tell the kids that they can always come back, but if I were in their position, I wouldn't feel comfortable coming back unless I really needed to.
4. What did you observe during your time there? I observed various forms of medication administration from albuterol treatments to mixing pills in apple sauce. In addition, I was able to observe how the nurse directed care by assessing and asking questions and then forming a treatment plan. Finally, I was able to see the process of parents dropping off medications and verifying orders with the nurse.
5. How was your experience different from what you expected? Honestly, the experience didn't differ too much from what I was expecting.
6. What are some of the needs/issues related to the health of the school age children that you may not have been aware of? An issue that I encountered that I didn't anticipate was having a sick kid whose mom and dad were not able to pick her up. The family only had one car, and so the school nurse had to help them figure out a way to coordinate pickup.
7. Please list two developmental stages related to the population that you observed. Industry vs. Inferiority and Autonomy vs. Shame and Doubt