

## School Nurse Experience Reflection Questions

1. How has your view of the student population changed?

My view of the student population has only differed by perspective. With my mom as an early education teacher growing up, I have always looked at the student population with great joy and love. Today as a school nurse, it changed in the sense of how being a kid truly is when it comes to health. The nurse I was with said, "It is book fair week, so it has been pretty slow, and kids do not want to get sent home." Growing up, knowing that I was like this too, it put it into perspective that we are truly alike, and these kids just want to be loved and have fun in the school setting.

2. How has your view of the school nurse role changed?

In my head from what I had experienced growing up, I thought school nurses just sat around, handed out medication, lice checks, and hearing checks. They do so much more than this. They carry the backbone of health in the school system. From medications all throughout the day to handling vaccine records of every student, they truly are remarkable people.

3. What surprised you about the school nurse experience?

It surprised me how relaxed it was in her office. She explained to me how amazing it is to be able to have "normal" breaks from work and how she is around when people need her. I really liked the environment!

4. What did you observe during your time there?

I observed her giving morning meds, she showed me around her office and where everything is set/policies, a student coming into the office because he needed some medicine for a headache, and how her charting looks.

5. How was your experience different from what you expected?

My experience was different than I expected because of how relaxed the environment was. It was so different from the hospital setting. She was able to sit down and eat her breakfast all while making sure everything was set throughout the day. I really loved it!

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?

I was aware of how many kids had asthma, but seeing how many inhalers she had stored was a whole other experience that I was unaware of. From breathing treatments, to after recess inhalers, these kids need their medicine to get through an effective rest of the day at school learning.

7. Please list two developmental stages related to the population that you observed.

I observed a student that was in their industry vs. inferiority stage. As this child was talking, he was describing how his classmates were better than him at sports, but he was trying his best. He was precious! Another stage I observed were among the children walking into their classrooms in the morning. They all had their friends and were trying to find who they belonged with. This showed Piaget's cognitive development during school age.