

# EDUC 683 Emergent Literacy

## **Artifact Description:**

The artifact that I chose to use for this course is a new teacher binder with assessments and instructional practices for each of the five critical components of early literacy instruction: Phonological Awareness, Phonics, Fluency, Comprehension, and Vocabulary.

## **Professional Growth and Development:**

Prior to this course, I was searching for effective instructional methods to teach reading and writing. I was also uncertain what the scope and sequence should look like for early literacy development. After taking a step back to study the continuum of learning and the stages of reading and writing development, I was able to start fitting all the many complex pieces to the literacy puzzle into place. Although I had many of the required pieces, I was not exactly sure where they all fit according to literacy development. For me, going back to the very beginning and analyzing each of the critical components of literacy instruction and where each component fit into an early reader's development was when it all started to fall into place for me.

I found myself researching each new topic that was discussed in the book, Tompkins, Gail (2014). Literacy in the early grades: a successful start for PK-4 readers and writers. I wanted to understand how and why readers develop as they do. As I researched, I began creating binders for each area. I remember being the new teacher trying to make sense of all the initiatives that were being introduced while at the same time planning creative lessons.

Our district is currently working on developing our Power Standards. We are working toward creating common formative assessments for both Language Arts and Math. I am hoping this document will be useful resource to help our PreK - first grade teams make sense of what our early readers need to become successful readers.

## **Impact on Student Learners:**

When our PreK - first grade teachers have the information at their fingertips, they will no longer need to research to find instructional methods that will work best for our developing readers. The new teacher binder will also provide a common assessment tool that is aligned across the grade levels.

## **Application of Standards:**

Standard 7: Teachers are able to plan different kinds of lessons.

Standard 8: Teachers know how to test for student progress.