

Volunteer and observation reflection: How has your time volunteering and observing informed my decision to be a teacher?

During the last 3 years, I have been working for nonprofit organizations that bring science programs to public schools. My work as a naturalist has allowed me to teach lessons to a range of students from K to 8th grades in their classrooms and in outdoor settings during field trips. Through these teaching experiences, I have realized how much I enjoy helping little kids understand the natural world around them and how much I love connecting with the students and their families. This experience has also allowed me to observe the work that elementary teachers perform and has inspired me to get certified in elementary education. I admire public school teachers and the opportunities they get to improve children's lives. I would love to improve my knowledge and skills in teaching to be able to support student's growth and education outcomes and to teach in elementary public schools to a broader range of students from different backgrounds and cultures.