

REFLECTIVE PRACTICE 1: SCIENCE AUTOBIOGRAPHY

Reflection - process in which one explores one's teaching asking important questions about interactions with students as well as the curriculum.

"Reflective Teachers are always looking inward and asking, " How am I doing?" They have the capacity to think about their roles as teachers from the standpoint of:

- * Who they themselves are
- * Who their students are
- * What they hope to accomplish

They are:

- * Conscious of their feelings about the school environment, their students, their teaching situation
- * Recognize potential and existing problems
- * Explore multiple solutions to problems

A reflective teacher constructs his or her practice, by exploring the classroom environment and creating or modifying his or her own teaching methods to establish new and better contexts for teaching."

WRITING YOUR SCIENCE AUTOBIOGRAPHY

This assignment helps you to explore your feelings about Science. Your Science Autobiography should be a personal description of your experience with Science, in or out of school through teachers, friends, family, magazines, museums, internet etc.

Write freely and frankly about your experiences with Science and your viewpoints about it. There is no prescribed length or format for Your Science Autobiography. It is your life story and needs to reflect your experiences.

The questions below can help you reflect on your experiences and assist you in writing your Science Autobiography. Add any other points you may like to in order to give a full representation of yourself.

- * What earliest experiences with science stand out for you?
- * When you look back on your science education, what do you perceive?
- * Did you like Science in school? Or did you detest it or just tolerate it?
- * How much Science did you do in: (a) elementary school? (b) Junior high/middle school? (c) High school?
- * What personal experiences with school science, scientists, science in the media, and science teachers stand out for you? Why?
- * Did you have a favorite Science teacher? Why was he or she your favorite?

Part 11 (in writing)

Take Time To Reflect On What You Have Written.

- * Why did you remember some stories and not others
- * How do you think that these stories may have framed your current feelings about science and the prospect of teaching Science?

Based on Science Stories, Janice Koch, ISBN 0-618-12281-8, pages 47- 48