

## Key Competencies for Professional Environmental Educators in Texas

### Fostering Learning (Theme 5)

PDS Number	What A Professional EE Will Know	What A Professional EE Will Be Able To Do	NAAEE Initial Prep Correlation	Assessment
5.1a	Understand that lifelong learning relates to instructional practices that engage students in taking responsibility for their own learning.	Demonstrate proficiency with these practices in instructional settings.	5.1 C,D; 5.3 A	video of instruction
5.1b*	Understand the importance of relevance and excitement of content to instruction.	Instruct with sense of importance and excitement of the content.	5.2 A,C	video of instruction
5.1c	Understand importance of experiences that increase learners' awareness of and enthusiasm for natural and human-designed environment.	Provide opportunities for these experiences during instruction.	5.1 A,B,F; 5.2 B	video of instruction
5.1d*	Understand importance of first-hand experience exploring the world around the learner.	Incorporate these opportunities.	5.1 B; 5.3 A	video of instruction
5.1e*	Understand importance of fostering clear and independent thinking in light of ee's goal of developing environmentally literate citizens.	Discuss why fostering clear and independent thinking is important.	5.1e	essay on Competency worksheet

5.1f	Understand appropriate instructional techniques that encourage learners to ask questions and explore a variety of answers.	Demonstrate use of these techniques.	5.1f	video of instruction
5.2a*	Be familiar with ways to encourage flexibility, creativity, and openness, considering the assumptions and interpretations that influence the conclusions that learners and others draw about the environment and environmental issues.	Demonstrate use of these techniques.	5.1 A; 5.2 A,C	video of instruction
5.2b*	Understand that learners' capacity for collaborative work relates to their ability to function as responsible and effective citizens. Be familiar with management techniques that foster independent and productive group work.	Implement management techniques.	5.2b	video of instruction
5.2c*	Recognizes the value of diverse cultures, races, genders, social groups, ages, and perspectives.	Includes these diverse factors with respect and equity and acknowledges the value of such diversity. Uses diverse backgrounds and perspectives as instructional resources.	5.2	scenario description on competency worksheet
5.3a*	Connect instruction to learners' everyday lives. Programs should present information and ideas in a way that is relevant to learners.	Relate concepts directly to students' experiences. Use illustrative material that is relevant to the learner and geographical area. Develop educational materials that are easy for students to use and understand. Lessons are presented in such a way as to create an enjoyable experience for the learner.	5.3a	video of instruction or scenario on competency worksheet

