

Rylee L'Italien
REH 395 Final Reflection

As part of my course work, I completed 150 hours at a practicum site to gain experience in the field. I chose to complete this assignment at Essential Learning Solutions in Livermore, Maine. Essential Learning Solutions (ELS) is a preschool for children ages 3-5 with various learning or cognitive disabilities. The population includes children with Autism Spectrum Disorder, Cerebral Palsy and Oppositional Defiant Disorder. My time at ELS was especially meaningful because I was trained on using Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) programming, a concept I was not familiar with beforehand. Although overwhelming at first, I was grateful to see first hand how effective this programming is for students as I saw significant progress in behaviors and cognitive skills.

Overall, what I enjoyed most out of this experience was establishing connections with the children and getting to witness great progress and growth. This experience helped solidify the idea that I want to work with children in my future endeavors.