

Interview Questions for Physical Education

1. What do you believe are the characteristics of an effective physical education teacher?

-A physical education teacher is someone who is able to integrate knowledge and understanding of human movement and physical fitness, student growth and development, and current learning theories in order to facilitate student learning so that students become physically fit, competent movers and understand a range of movement forms.

***Key concepts:** has comprehensive knowledge about scientific and applied aspects of human movement and physical activity; uses developmentally appropriate activities; models sportsmanship; shows awareness of students' needs; applies effective teaching strategies; accommodates diversity; demonstrates professional commitment through involvement in professional organizations; serves as a positive role model of personal fitness and skill; uses appropriate assessment and evaluation; applies current technology. Students should learn health-related fitness, motor skills, how to be and stay active out of class, sport opportunities, various movement forms. (Key Concepts -the applicant may or may not answer the question in exactly this way, however, the interviewer can focus on the key words related to the concepts involved in the answer.)

2. What is a physically educated person?

- Skilled in a variety of physical activities
- Physically fit-participates regularly in physical activity
- Knows the implications of and the benefits from the involvement in physical activities
- Values physical activity and its contribution to a healthful lifestyle

2a. How would you help your children to become physically educated?

***Key Concepts:** Competence in manipulative locomotor and non-locomotor skills, involvement in life activities and various movement forms (sport, dance, gymnastics, aquatics), assesses, achieves and maintains personal physical fitness; understands how to be safe in physical activity; health-enhancing regular physical activity; variety of physical activity options; motor development; healthy lifestyle decisions; enjoyment.

3. What are the appropriate practices or best practices in physical education?

Appropriate instructional practices are those that recognize students' development and changing movement abilities, as well as their individual differences. Teachers plan and implement instruction that maximizes each student's potential to develop in all domains in a safe, motivating environment. The documents are used to ensure that the teachers are implementing programs that are both developmentally and instructionally appropriate for students.

***Key Concepts:** selection of movement concepts and motor skills; cognitive development; affective development; fitness; fitness assessment; maximum participation; variety of movement forms; management of competition.

4. How do you assess students in physical education?

Learning should be systemically assessed based on predetermined goals. Assessments should include a variety of forms that assess understanding and application of concepts and development of skills. Assessment should be ongoing part of learning and reflect authentic application of meaningful skills and knowledge.

***Key Concepts:** evaluation of students within psychomotor, cognitive, and affective domains; valid, reliable, and objective; formative evaluation in relation to individualized criteria; guide to instructional planning; criteria-based; focus on individual performance; should assist in grading; indicator of quality instruction.

5. How do you ensure the safety and well-being of all students?

The teacher should plan and direct all class activities in an environment that promotes the safety of all students.

***Key Concepts:** Physical maturation and skill development levels (size and strength); pertinent student medical information; continuous supervision in all activity areas and in the locker room; appropriate clothing and shoes; safety aspects of physical activities is an integral part of instruction: emergency first-aid procedures; maintenance of all equipment and facilities.

5a. how would you accommodate students with a variety of special needs?

***Key Concepts:** All students are not doing the same thing at the same time but a variety of levels, stations, equipment and activities. It is important to extend and adapt tasks to student needs.

6. What is your understanding of the National Standards for Physical Education that were developed by the National Association for Sport and Physical Education or of our state's standards for physical education?

“The purpose of the National Standards was to clearly identify what a student should know and be able to perform as a result of a quality physical education program and to establish teacher-friendly guidelines for assessment.” There are six broad standards with benchmarks for grades K, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, and 12.

***Key Concepts:** the standards address: motor skill competency; varied movement forms; understanding of movement & fitness; physically active lifestyle; health-enhancing level of physical fitness; responsible personal and social behavior in physical activity settings; respect for differences; opportunities for enjoyment, challenge, self-expression, and social interaction.

Other Significant Questions

7. What are your plans for professional involvement and self-improvement?

8. Would you be willing to attend in-service trainings on your own time?

9. Give an example of how you have been cooperative and flexible in a professional work environment.

Reference: © 2009, National Association for Sport and Physical Education, an association of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, www.aahperd.org/naspe