Elementary education at University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire is referred to as “middle childhood through early adolescence.” The middle childhood through early adolescence emphasis, offered under the teacher education program within the School of Education, prepares teachers to work with children grades 1-8. The preparation provided by the program focuses on an understanding of children and learning processes, as well as effective methods of presentation. This is not a comprehensive major, requiring students to choose a minor as well. Minors approved for pairing with the middle childhood through early adolescence major are: language arts, French, general science, library science, mathematics, social studies, Spanish, special education-learning disabilities, teaching English to speakers of other languages (TESOL), and theater arts.

Typical interests and values of middle childhood through early adolescence majors:
- Helping people
- Compassionate
- Strong leadership qualities
- Working with children

Knowledge and skills gained from studying middle childhood through early adolescence:

**Knowledge:**
A middle childhood through early adolescence major’s knowledge spans a vast array of disciplines due to their need to teach so many different subjects. Their coursework pulls from such areas as English, kinesiology, natural and social sciences (e.g– biology, geography, and political science), fine arts, and diversity credits.

**Skills:**
- Leadership skills
- Instructional Skills
- Ability to explain concepts clearly using simple language
- Control and discipline
- Safety skills
- Quick-thinking
- Enlisting help when needed
- Coordinating tasks
- Providing support for others
- Defining needs and resources
- Providing appropriate feedback
- Solving problems
- Developing rapport

Related student and professional organizations:
**Student:**
- Future Teachers’ Club K-9
- Reading Partners
- Student WEA
- 3-5 Club

**Professional:**
- Association for Childhood Education International
- National Association for the Education of Young Children
- Wisconsin Early Childhood Association

Career fields related to middle childhood through early adolescence:

**Potential Employers:**
Students graduating with a bachelor of science in middle childhood through early adolescence can be employed in any number of public or private elementary schools. There are also opportunities available overseas to work in different language camps or with the Department of Defense in schools for children of armed services personnel serving abroad.

**Potential Job Titles:**
- Teacher (grades 1-8)
- Reading Specialist
- Resource Teacher
- Camp Director
- School Library Assistant
- Specialty Teacher
- Daycare Teacher
- Title One Teacher
- Preschool Teacher
- ESL /Bilingual Teacher
- School Principal
- Special Education Aid
- Gifted/Talented Coordinator
- School Superintendent
- Physical Education Teacher
- School Superintendent
Jobs You Might Also Consider...
Recreation Professional School Counselor
Instructional Coordinator Fund-Raiser
Child Life Specialist Public Relations
Government Official School Psychologist
Education Administrator Librarian
Social and Community Service Manager

Sample entry level jobs held by UW-Eau Claire middle childhood through early adolescence graduates:
- Teacher, Madison School District, Madison, WI
- Grade 3 Teacher, Chippewa Area Catholic Schools, Chippewa Falls, WI
- Youth Pastor, Jacob’s Well Church, Eau Claire, WI

Sample entry level jobs held by UW-Eau Claire middle childhood through early adolescence graduates:
- Title I Math/SAGE, River Falls School District, River Falls, WI
- First Grade Teacher, Clark County School District, Las Vegas, NV
- Librarian, Marathon School District, Marathon, WI
- Associate Professor, UW-Eau Claire, Eau Claire, WI
- Superintendent of Schools, Minnesota Public School District, MN

Learn more about middle childhood through early adolescence:
Department
- Contact UW–Eau Claire’s Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Brewer 271, 836-2013

Getting Started at Career Services:
- Meet with a career counselor
- Take interest inventory and self-assessment tests
- Utilize Blugold Career Success Network, a database of UW–Eau Claire alumni & friends available for informational interviewing
- Utilize Blugold CareerLink, an online job search database specifically for UWEC students and alum

Resources at Career Services:
Yellow Section-