Vygotsky

Do some independent research on Vygotsky too so you have a well rounded understanding of zone of proximal development, scaffolding and self regulation.

Teachers provide children assistance, guidance and direction in their zone of proximal development. This assignment will allow you to identify examples for scaffolding you observe in your early childhood classroom.

1. Identify examples of scaffolding used by you, another teacher or by children.

2. Record the examples you saw. Did they seem appropriate with just enough help to support the child or did the teacher or child providing the assistance seem to take over the activity? Identify missed opportunities where scaffolding would have helped a child move to the next zone of proximal development?

3. Think about how you or another teacher uses scaffolding with their students. If you interview another teacher, evaluate his or her answers using what you read in the chapter about social construction of knowledge, language and thought and self-regulation.

4. Write a reflection using examples of what you learned and how this new information will impact your teaching in the future.