

Chapter 7 Assignment- Teaching Philosophy

I believe that children are our future and as educators we must guide them in learning with an equal balance of basic skills as well as skills to help them as problem solvers for real life situations. Every child is different and needs to have a caring and also stimulating environment in order to succeed in their learning experiences. Children not only need to grow intellectually by possessing basic math and English skills but also need to grow emotionally, socially, and morally to survive in the world today. As an educator I believe it is my responsibility to help my students reach their full potential in all these areas by providing an environment that is completely safe, supports individuality with sharing of ideas, and also supports risk-taking. There are four things that I believe to be important in order for my students' to learn and reach their greatest potential: The educator (myself) to act as a guide by teaching and motivating each individual to do their personal best, providing a learning environment that supports basic knowledge along with problem solving for today's society, promote students expression of their own ideas, and also promoting respect from each student for all people and all things.

When an educator guides their students' they need to provide them with the necessary tools and information in order for each child to reach their full potential.

Not only as a guide with educational information, as teachers we need to guide our students' with motivation because if a student doesn't have the motivation to do well how will they ever succeed in school or in life. When I was in high school I lost motivation and did not perform to my full potential. I regret some of the decisions I made in my own educational journey as a teenager and I now personally understand how much motivation plays a role in succeeding in school and in life and I feel that I not only need to guide my future students with the basic knowledge to succeed but with the motivation to succeed as well. I will teach each student that they are important in class and in the world. I will teach to the needs of all children so they can feel capable and successful because if a student becomes discouraged they can lose motivation. I will encourage students to be their personal best and I will praise them for good work. By doing this I am giving them the tools necessary to believe in themselves and become successful.

I believe it is important in today's society for children not only to obtain the necessary basic skills in math, English, and other important subjects but it is also important for children to learn skills necessary to succeed in regular life situations. There are many people who believe that basic skills such as math and English are the only thing necessary to learn in school and there are also many people who believe that instead of basic skills children need to learn problem solving skills to use in the world today. I believe that both are necessary to survive because no

matter how much knowledge a person knows it does not give them the skills to decide the right thing to do in every situation that comes along in life. On the other hand even if someone knows how to handle situations in life they still need to have basic skills and knowledge to help them along the way as well. I will incorporate themes, projects, group work, individual work, and hands-on experiences to help make students active learners and grasp how certain subjects can apply to real life situations. I think an even balance of both basic skills and problem solving skills will help children prepare for today's world where knowledge and decision making is necessary.

Letting a child express their own ideas will help them understand how important their own ideas and also how important other people's ideas are in life. When a student can express their ideas without being scared of being criticized by others is a growing experience for them and helps promote high self-esteem. Listening to other's beliefs and ideas also helps children realize that there are other people with different views than they possess which helps them appreciate differences in people. In my classroom I will hold class meetings where each student can express their ideas without criticism. I will also hold class discussions during some lesson plans which will also allow students to express their own ideas and answers to lessons. Promoting children to express their own ideas and beliefs

is a great way to help mold students into emotionally, socially, and morally stable adults which is important in the world today.

Promoting an environment that encourages respect for all people and all things is an important part of teaching children. There are often too many cases of bullying in today's society and this is one thing that I will not tolerate in my classroom. Children should know and understand that everyone is equal no matter their race, culture, weight, gender, intellect, and beliefs or values. Too often people disregard other people's feelings and we are putting each other down too much for our own pleasure. Too often people are judged by things that shouldn't even matter. In my classroom I will set rules, guidelines, and will also set specific disciplines for bad behavior and I will follow and enforce them diligently. I will remind my students that everyone and everything is special in its own way and that everyone is unique and important to our society. By children having respect for everyone and everything it will promote a safe learning environment and when students' feel safe it is proven that they tend to function better intellectually.

I know that teaching is an evolving lifelong learning process and over the years my philosophy and theories may change according to my experiences and results in the classroom. I welcome the changes that the teaching profession may bring and I feel that more individuals need to have an open mind and heart to changing their views to best suit the children of the world today. I want to instill a

love of learning and growing in my students and that is one of my biggest goals as an educator. In our competitive society I feel that children need to receive a solid education as well as have a teacher that is aware and sensitive to their needs. I want to help children grow intellectually, socially, emotionally, and morally which are all important to survive in the world today. Teaching has become my passion and I will always strive to be the best educator that I can be and most important I will strive to bring the best out of each and every one of my students.