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“Why Teach?” Essay

There is one person in particular that I have looked up to my whole life, and that is my grandmother. She has told me many stories of her adventures in life. Now the time has come to start my biggest journey in life: college. As a senior in high school, there were many thoughts that constantly ran through my mind. Thoughts questioning what I wanted to be when I graduated. Of course, I was going to go to college, but what for? Was I going to study to be nurse, to be a veterinarian, to be an artist? At this point my career box was left blank. That was until my grandmother coached me up one morning, “You know Kaykay, the profession that you wish to choose have nothing to do with the pay of the career. You should look at it like a hobby. It should be something that you get excited about when you wake up each morning.” I got to thinking and there seemed to be one profession in the forefront of my mind, and that was to become a teacher. “Why teaching?” many would ask. I would tell them in response that it is not just the teaching that matters, it is the children that are most important, and it is the way in which I plan to teach them that counts.

A teacher has the task of making sure students are being taught the required subjects listed in the curriculum. Although, one pointer that is not mentioned is how one should teach the children to process that particular information. One objective that I find best for helping others learn, is by finding out what type of learners they are. Children can be aural/auditory learners, kinesthetic learners, visual learners, or reader/writer learners. It takes more than a week to figure out what kind of learners each of the students are, but that should not stop one from teaching. Instead, use a teaching method that fits into each category of learning. This helps every child of a different learning ability to consume the information being taught. Also, the method of using a power point while speaking; on the side of, having the children write down what they might think is relevant to the topic they are learning. This allows the child to use their eyes, ears, and hands all together to learn the subject being taught. Also, it shows that the teacher is really dedicated in wanting each child to succeed in their class no matter the disability.

A teacher should not only take the initiative to view what kind of learners their students are, but to also take the time to personally connect with each child through lessons and work time. This makes it so the child feels a sense of comfort in a classroom setting; therefore, building trust between them and the teacher. It is always a good idea to gain the student’s trust; otherwise, the child could act out in a way that will lead to dangerous actions such as trying to harm the teacher or other students in the room. One practice a teacher can use to strengthen this area of trust building is called: Equality in the Classroom. This means that the teacher should give every child a chance to try that new activity, or give an answer to a question no matter what. Gender, race, favoritism, or a disability a child might have should never matter. Also, if a child answers a question wrong, you should not just abandon them. Do not move on to another student. The job of a teacher is to teach, so why not teach that student the correct answer? Lead the student to the correct answer by showing them where to find it in the reading, notes, or saying to them, “You are on the right track why don’t you give it another go?” If the child is totally lost then it is only right that the teacher needs to reteach the class that particular topic by giving a better explanation then given before. This makes the child feel more confident in answering questions in class, and helps boost their intelligence as well.

Although, finding out what kind of learners the students may be, and gaining trust of the students is important there is one other factor that is equally important. This is the desire and dedication on the teacher’s part when it comes to being a teacher. Being a teacher is a ton of work from having lectures, grading homework, lesson planning, and doing activities. One has to be willing to give in their time to make sure every child meets the standards so they can move up to the next grade the follow year. Each child is dedicated to wanting to learn and wanting to have fun. The career of being a teacher should be just as exciting and amusing. No child should ever witness a teacher who is not lighthearted, who is not motivated, and is not organized. A teacher has to be a good actor/actress at what they do, just like a role in a play. The teacher is the one who makes the year exceptionally worth going to class. Students should leave every day with a smiling face, and an exciting fact or story that they learned in class. Because let’s be honest, who would want to hire someone to be a teacher if that applicant does not have the desire to work with children, or they had no desire of even teaching. This is where my grandmother’s advice fits in as well. She said to me that my career should be like a hobby. It should be something entertaining to myself and to the others I am working with. If I am having a good time, my students are going to have a good time.

Becoming a teacher is a difficult job to fulfill, but in the end it will be worth it. I hope to grow close to my students figuring out what ways they learn best. Also I hope to gain their trust. Gaining trust is what really sparks a fire in the classroom, because it allows the students to be more engaged in open discussion. But most importantly to answer the question “Why Teach?” would be for the sake of having a good time in a classroom. Not only to teach, but to have fun with your teaching so your career does not feel like a hassle. It makes it so your career is something you are looking forward to when you wake in the morning every day, like it is a part of your life routine, a hobby, a goodtime!