

Me as a Teacher

When I consider myself as a teacher I try to think of my strengths in every aspect that will help me succeed. These strengths consist of me as a person, a student, and as a professional. They will help mold me into a great teacher. I am passionate about learning new things, and love growing with more knowledge each and every day. I believe I am a great listener and I always try to get to know everyone I meet on a personal level. As a student I aspire to succeed and to always try my hardest. Time management is something my parents instilled in me at such a young age, and I feel with that skill I will be even more prepared to have this career. I am a planner, but I am also creative. I try to take all of the criteria in projects, and follow through but also go above and beyond in terms of effort and presentation. I am a very caring person, and I always have a positive attitude.

My strengths will enhance my strategies of teaching and guide me in becoming a teacher. With these characteristics I know I will be there for my students, and truly listen to them and taking their statements and emotions seriously. I had plenty of teachers who gave off the impression that they never cared, never wanted to listen, and did not appreciate our feelings. I feel I would be great with my students, and ultimately be there for them. Being a planner and having a great sense of time management will come in handy with my learning plans, grading papers, and communicating with the parents. I am very creative, and love projects, which I believe will help the students want to learn more in our class.

There are a few challenges I think about quite frequently, regarding the students standardized testing results. I am constantly thinking of how some students will not meet those expectations, and then I will be frowned upon as a teacher. I suffered from severe test anxiety as a young student, and I understand some students will have the same issue. Even helping them as best as I can won't always be enough. That is always a difficult realization for me. Another scenario I feel is a challenge would be surprises. For instance, some days my learning plans will not go as scheduled and I will have to improvise, or maybe even extend a certain subject.

I believe what I will enjoy most as a teacher, are the students. They will change my life, and bring so much joy to my heart. I look forward to the specific students who will say something to me or do something that will absolutely inspire me to keep teaching and be even better for my students. I have heard several teachers tell me how wonderful some of their students were, and how rewarding this profession truly is.

The most difficult scenario I think about most of the time would be the different academic levels one class holds. Some students are well ahead of the others, and it will be difficult to help all of them progress when some students are still struggling with the basic tools. I would of course review topics, but sometimes that will not be enough. I will help those struggling, but also be able to move forward in our learning plans. This is very difficult and being able to adapt and reflect through this process will be necessary.

Again, the most intimidating aspect to me is meeting those requirements with standardized testing. Those results, or numbers are the high priority for school districts, and I am very nervous about having a lower level testing class as a result of my teachings. Ultimately, making sure all of my students are ready for the next year, but some of the parents are

intimidating and difficult to work with. I am afraid of the conversations with the parents; I have heard a lot of horror stories.

I think I will be a great teacher. I always imagine myself with a positive attitude, and eager to learn more. I know I am going to be a very active teacher in terms of projects, and fun ways to learn for kids. I see myself being very compassionate and always wanting to be there for all of my students. I hope and pray all of my students will look back and have wonderful memories from my class.

In class when filling out our worksheet for intrinsic and extrinsic motivators for teaching, I realized a pattern. I only put intrinsic motivators and they were my ten reasons I wanted to teach. I love children, and watching them grow with knowledge. The idea of making the students feel empowered and helping them build their self confidence is so special to me. No one can succeed without believing in themselves. My past teachers were my inspiration, and I really want to make a difference in this world and help others. Change and reflection was essential to me, because I enjoy learning and being observant of my own actions. I personally believe that working with children is my passion, and education is one of my favorite aspects of life. Spending my life and career with children will help keep me grounded, and more aware of the small, or trivial things us adults tend to take advantage of.

I am extremely confident or competent in all of my dispositions. I feel because of my parents, past teachers, and other mentors I am able to say that I am successful in these aspects. I especially believe I have a positive attitude, I am aware of the ethics of care. I am great with time management, as well as reflection and self-evaluation. I am still developing on the self initiative disposition with the demonstrations of awareness of one's role in field experience. For the most part I understand this, however, I feel that I am so intimidated by this factor of being in the classroom alone with the children now, it brings my confidence down. I know the general things of teaching, but I know with service learning that I will realize the small things I haven't thought of that I will have to accomplish for the class.

I believe I will be a great teacher, and I am looking forward to the future. I know I need to improve now, and I will always need to be changing and improving with my career. I am excited to work with children, and this will bring me so much happiness. One of my favorite quotes about teaching was said by Brad Henry the former governor of Oklahoma. "A good teacher can inspire hope, ignite the imagination, and instill a love of learning." I love and appreciate this quote so much, and plan on demonstrating this quote to my students.