

## **Philosophy of Teaching**

### *Why I became a teacher*

Since I was young, I have wanted to help people and have a positive impact on the world. I found my passion for teaching while I was tutoring elementary students after school while I was in high school. As I spent every afternoon with these students, the more I fell in love with it. I started to realize how important the role of a teacher really was and how much of a positive impact it made on those students. Watching a student's face light up when they understand something or get an answer correct is priceless to me. As a teacher, I will help shape the minds of our future generation. I have the ability to change a child's life every day by creating a safe and loving environment for them to learn in. I believe the most rewarding thing about teaching is watching a child succeed no matter the obstacles they were faced with.

### *What I teach*

As an early childhood education teacher, I will teach a wide variety of subjects that will be the base to students' future successes in education. I will teach the alphabet, numbers, shapes, counting, basic reading skills, and so much more. These skills are very important, but I will focus on many life skills as well. I will teach kindness and how to solve conflicts among one another respectfully. I will use books and discussions will cover a variety of different cultures, backgrounds, and abilities. I want my students to be accepting of one another and each other's difference. Rules and routines will be taught daily so that the classroom will focus more on learning and less on discipline. I want life skills to be just as important as curriculum in my classroom order for my students to be successful, they need both.

### *How I teach*

Research has showed us every child learns at their own pace and in their own way. Getting to know students through interest surveys, family meetings, and pre- and post- assessments can help set up each child's learning profile. This allows me to understand what they are interested in learning, how they learn, and at what level they are at in their education. Looking at each child's profile can help me to differentiate my lesson plans. I can challenge my advanced students, while giving extra help to my struggling student. This keeps all students engaged in their learning. I use multiple intelligences in each lesson I teach. I like to include direct instruction for auditory learners, videos or games that involve movement for kinesthetic learners, worksheets for visual learners, and both group and individualized work for interpersonal and intrapersonal learners. Play is also a major part of early childhood learning. I will provide props for activities such as free and dramatic play.

### *How I measure effectiveness*

I measure my success by how successful my students are. For most units, I conduct a pre- and post-test. I analyze the results and teach according to the data. If results show that students did not understand something, I will determine why and change my teaching approach. If only a few students don't understand, I will work individually with them. I will also use critical thinking activities or questions to measure their comprehension of the lesson. I believe that all students can succeed if they are given the right tools. If my teaching methods are not working, I will work to understand why. Questions I often ask are is there a gap in the student's knowledge, was the teaching approach wrong for this lesson, or do they just need more time to learn it. I will never be afraid to change how I teach if it's not showing success in my students.