

What is Education? Thinking about education, makes me wonder if this word is thought in a deeper manner than just lecturing students. I believe the purposes of education are more in depth than many realize. Education is not just standing at the front of the classroom, but giving an experience that will make it easier for students to learn. The purpose for education is to teach by activities, to have fun while providing the best education to the students, and to give your whole heart with the expectation that the students will leave the classroom understanding what has been taught. Moreover, the purpose in education is not only teaching what the state requires, but going above and beyond. Going above is teaching life skills so students can become civilized human beings when graduation occurs, but doing so is teaching the students the best way to that they can learn.

Everyone is unique. By being unique means that each student learns differently than their peers. Teaching to the curriculum and providing the help that students need will give a better self-confidence within themselves. Moreover, putting creativity into the classroom can help students learn better as well as a positive learning experience and motivation. Giving these things, students will want to be at school to see what they will be learning for the day. I believe students learn best when the classroom is organized and has an easy flow from one subject to another to keep from overwhelming and hindering their education. As a future educator, seeing joy on students faces in a classroom is so important to me. Seeing the joy and happiness from the creativity, the lessons with activities, and the positive atmosphere lets me know that I am doing more than teaching state requirements, but teaching developments in the student.

The development in students come from the basics taught in the classroom. As every classroom, the basics are math, science, reading, language arts, and social studies. However, the basics in the classroom are broader. I believe the development comes socially by doing group activities to communicate with their peers; to have the students “open up” to one another. I feel emotional development comes from reading and feeling what the author is saying, but also the excitement of wanting to be in the classroom. Intellectual growth comes from math and science, by trying to organize the question into an acceptable answer; intellectual growth is also experienced with classroom rules. Furthermore, the physical development in a child, I believe, comes from self- esteem and motivation, but also from the activities provided with the basic curriculum using the five senses. This development is crucial to the students and it is important that educators watch for weaknesses of the student to make sure there is not a delay. With the basics of curriculum, teaching the developments in the student must also promote learning.

How is learning promoted? In the classroom, a good learning environment promotes learning. Having a good learning environment means letting the students be active and ask questions. There is not a question that will be invalid. It shows the students curiosity and the want to know further. A good learning environment is having a positive, motivated atmosphere; giving the students a sense of belonging. Moreover, a student will have difficulty focusing on the lesson if the classroom is not neat and organized. Having an organized classroom will help students be focused on the activity and lesson being taught. Teaching also promotes learning and bringing a good environment. When I say teaching, I mean teaching on the student’s level and on the student’s needs.

Students have their own needs to be able to learn. There are needs for the whole classroom and needs for individual students. The needs for the classroom is to set high

expectations. As a substitute teacher, I have heard this so many times. The higher the expectation the more the student's will strive to meet the expectation. Students need to be active. I wish students received more recesses than they do, but that is where fun will come into the classroom. Students need a break from the book, computer, the smartboard, etc. They get bored easy and daydream a lot more without breaks. They need hands-on learning with activities that go with the lesson. There are also ways to teach students individually, especially if they need the extra help. I strive to be the teacher that can give each struggling student time to better assist them. I want them to know that it is okay and we can figure out together. I feel with positive motivation, students can learn anything. I strive to see the "light bulb" go off in their heads, and meeting these needs is most important.

Every teacher in the classroom have students that struggle. Meeting the individual needs is creating a lesson that corresponds with the lesson of other students, but the information is on their skilled level. I would work with the students in down time to help them better understand. Being a teacher means being able to explain one problem 100 different ways. Doing this, gives each student the ability to learn differently. In the classroom, I feel having a relevance to teaching on a relatable level to the student is important. Students can learn easier if teaching connects with their personal life. Coming up with strategies to make this possible is important to the needs of the students. I also believe in setting the expectations high to have to students push beyond their boundaries and gain confidence and thrill within themselves once the expectation is reached. I believe these needs can be met by showing the students it is about them and that I care for each of them. Showing the care of teacher means a great deal to the students and gives them a sense of belonging.

As a future educator, qualities in a teacher are important, but what is more important is having positive qualities. When a student or parent walks into my classroom, I want them to feel joy, happiness, and see that I love my job. I do not want them to feel as though there is tension and sense nothing but negativity. I feel the number one quality of a teacher is a love for children. If there is no love, how can teaching be the profession. When I say a love, I mean love, caring, and being an active listener to students concerns. I feel these qualities will bring a bond between the student and the teacher. Another important quality in the classroom is treating everyone as an equal. If the students see that the teacher cares about them individually and no one is superior to the other, then the classroom can remain positive. I understand that there are frustrations in the classroom, but I strive to teach my students to use words and to be able to take care of the frustrations in a positive manner. Positive qualities in a teacher will make the classroom an positive, easier, and organized learning environment.