

*“If a child can’t learn the way we teach, maybe we should teach the way they learn”. (Ignacio ‘Nacho’ Estrada)*

This is a very important message that I never want to forget. Each child learns differently, it is our job as teachers to teach them so they learn.

Hello everyone! My full name is Kaylee Annay Nelson. I was born in Upper Heyford, England, which is right outside of London. My dad was in the Air Force, so we have lived all over. After my parents divorced, we finally settled in Walnut Ridge, Arkansas, where I graduated High School. My husband and I got married right after I graduated, and we began our family. I have been with my husband for almost 15 years now! His name is Erick and he is the absolute best! Together, we have 4 sons, Tucker, 8, Peyton, 11, Gabe 12, and Ayden, my stepson, is 14. Having been raised in a house with my mom and 3 sisters, it’s been crazy living with all of these boys!

I am 31 years old and am in my Junior year of my Bachelors in Elementary Education. I haven’t always wanted to be a teacher. In fact, I began college right out of high school, but I switched my major every semester for 2 years and then decided to stop wasting my time and decide on a career. I’ve been in managerial positions ever since. It wasn’t until I had all of my own kids, that I looked at them and all of their wonder and finally thought, I want to keep this stage forever! So, I thought of teaching! I would get to experience my favorite years over and over as my career. I love the thought of being able to give back to my community in such a powerful and positive way. It reminded me of all of my favorite teachers and why I loved them. I want to be that teacher that people remember for positive things for many years to come. To think that I could have such a powerful impact on so many lives, absolutely touches my heart.

My philosophy is simple. I built it on the 5 W’s and also the H. Who, What, When, Where, Why, and How. All of these questions are addressed in my philosophy. I want to be a role model in and out of the classroom. I want to continue to keep as many families involved as I can, as I believe it is very important in every child’s life. I want to teach my students everything I possibly can from the curriculum and standards to how to tie their shoes or celebrate their similarities and differences. I want to prepare them to be responsible and understanding young citizens of the community. I want them to come in to my classroom with a smile on their face and excitement in their body. These children I will be teaching are the children of the future. They are our future leaders of America.

I'm excited to be that role model in their lives to which they can reflect back positively and be productive in society.

Technology is so important to teach our young children. In today's world, everything is turning digital and it is only going to continue to become more digital. Our children need to learn technology and its uses as soon as we can get it to them. They are being raised in an ever-advancing world and will need to learn as much technology as they can to adapt better to a technological world. In the classroom, we will learn how to use as many technology tools as we can, so they are at least familiar with basic technology.

Being a teacher to me also means being a mentor, a guide, or even a coach. We need to teach the core values to each and every student. As for all of the other stuff, we have to be able to teach them how to problem solve and how to take initiative. This doesn't mean tell them how to think or what to do, but teach them how to get to the answer themselves. So, with that being said, I will leave you with another great quote that I love dearly,

*"The best teachers are those who show you where to look, but don't tell you what to see". (Alexandria Trenfor)*

Thank you for allowing me to be in each of my students' lives. I truly couldn't imagine doing anything different for the rest of my life. I already feel accomplished knowing how proud my own children are of me, I cannot wait until I grow so many more children as each year passes.