

My Educational Influences

By Katy Ackerman

- My High school coach
 - Blackcomb Snowmobile
 - Bachelors in Outdoor Education
 - Stay at home mom
 - Certified Education Assistant



My High School Coach/Teacher

My PE teacher and track coach had a way of reaching every student. The connections he made and his impact on students were so big. For example, he was just at my friend's wedding in April, 20 years after our graduation!

In grade 11, they wanted to transfer him to a different school, but he was our school, and thus we were not going to let this happen. I was part of the organization of a school wide walk out, demanding he stay with us. And we succeeded!



Coach G.

The man the myth the legend

After reflecting on this experience, I see the impact a teacher can have on a student, and what determination can do. I will bring my determination into the classroom to help every child to succeed .

Your Students might not remember everything you do, but your impact can last a lifetime!

Blackcomb Snowmobile

I left the flat lands and moved to the mountains after graduation. I found a job at a family owned and operated adventure company. I was the designated guide for all the family tours, even though I loved the powder! My Bosses knew I was good with kids, so any family tour or even anytime they their friends needed a sitter, they called on me.



This experience showed me I belong with kids. I would show kids of all ages, nationalities, and experiences a good safe time not in their element: on the machines, with the dogs, and snowshoeing. Looking back with a cultural lens, I see how well I handled diversity in all sorts of conditions: a great asset to have as a teacher. 3



Bachelors in Outdoor Education

I love nature and adventure, so this seemed like the perfect career path for me. This was an important experience for me as I discovered the power of learning outside, and all that nature has to offer us.

Even in tough situations, leadership came easy to me. Because of this training I got to tour groups all over Canada and the Western USA.

Looking back on this degree, and the experiences that came because of it, I see how this helped me become a better leader and learn so much from our land. I now understand and feel a connection to the First Peoples Principals of Learning which will help me incorporate them into my teachings.

Stay At Home Mom

After University, I got pregnant. We were privileged enough that I got to stay home and raise our kids. I defiantly learned a lot raising kids as opposed to just playing with them. After 8 years being “stuck in the house” and with my two oldest starting school, I wanted back on the workforce.



Raising 3 kids has put me in a good position to better understand child development and their needs. I will feel at home teaching grades k-4. I'm excited to see if this will change after doing our practicums and future

Reflecting now, I was so lucky to be at home with my kids. However, my kids thought “dad works, and mom stays at home” was normal.

But how can I leave for days on end as an adventure guide?

Certified Education Assistant

I was a single mom so leaving to school wasn't an option. I could take this online, and the thought of having the same schedule as my kids was ideal!

I learned so much in my EA training, it even helped me with my parenting struggles. The education really brought out things I didn't know I had in me. I couldn't wait to get into the classroom to make a difference.



I learned so much about diversity, support and inclusion being an EA. I feel every teacher should have this training. I loved being a CEA but often, I would look at the teacher and think I could do that and so much more (and make more money)! Reflecting now, with the diversity and sociocultural influences that are seen in the classroom, I feel this training will help me a lot as a teacher.



So, Here I am!



PS I'd like to thank everyone for their presentations.

Your words and honesty
have helped me to reflect for the
next assignment in this class!

Thank you

Any Questions?