

Philosophy of Education

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I believe that it is so important to provide a comprehensive education to students, to help them grow not only as students but as people who are given the skills to strive to be fulfilled and active members of society. To help students strive towards that goal, it will be important to provide students with skills that will help them to grow cognitively, emotionally, and physically. It will be so important to get to know students and their needs in these areas, to best cater to their needs. As a teacher, I will provide opportunities of social, intellectual, and physical growth by offering collaborative lessons that can apply to the real world and include varying learning techniques, while enforcing positive social skills.

Social emotional growth is very important for students, especially in early years. As an elementary teacher, social and emotional skills will be a prevalent and underlying force in my classroom. It is very important to help students to learn about themselves and their emotions so they can identify how they are feeling and regulate their emotions. This is a skill that will not only help them to be successful in school but in life as well. A way that I would help students with this is by talking about the zones of regulation (blue: sad, tired..., green: happy, calm, focused..., yellow: frustrated, worried, excited..., red: angry, mean, out of control) and what zones will help them to be the most successful learners. It will be important to teach them strategies to help them to get back in control of themselves and like they can be successful. After working on self regulation it will also be important to work on appropriate and successful social behavior. Interacting well with peers is a very important part of life. It will be important to give students opportunities to work through problems with peers and collaborate. I will give students this opportunity through partner/group work and social time with peers. When peers have an issue it will be important to help them work through it and express themselves in a mature way.

A way that I could approach this with students is by helping them to use 'I feel...' statements to express themselves and communicate effectively. These are all ways that I will work to promote social emotional growth and development in my classroom.

Differentiated instruction and assessment will provide the most intellectual growth and the best learning experience possible for each child in the classroom. To make sure that all children are learning the material to the best of their ability, it is wise to offer many different ways to learn during a lesson. For auditory learners, it is important to have some lessons that are more lecture and text based. For the more visual learners, some lessons will be taught more on the board or presented on an easel. For kinesthetic learners, collaborative lessons and projects are very important. It will be important to plan lessons that involve a variety of different teaching methods so all of the children are learning the material to the best of their ability. This will also help them to realize how they learn best, so they can maximize their ability to absorb information in the future. It will be pivotal to learn about students and how they most effectively will be engaged in their learning. Knowing their interests and what gets them motivated will also be of great merit. It is also very important to make sure that students are being guided and challenged in a way that helps them to grow. It will be necessary to work with students within their zone of proximal development and give them guidance so they can challenge their minds and grow into the learners that they can be. It will also be important to give them independent work at their level so they can gain confidence and independence in their learning. These are ways that I will promote intellectual growth and development in my classroom.

Especially with younger students, it will be pivotal to focus on physical developmental growth. It is so important that students are learning how to make healthy life choices. It will be

very important to openly discuss topics like hygiene, healthy eating, and exercise with students, as they might not get this information at home. These are all very important aspects of healthy growth and development. It will also be important to help students with their motor development in order to become successful with everyday tasks like running, tying shoes, cutting, etc. All of these aspects of healthy living will be very important for students to promote growth.

I believe that providing opportunities for social, intellectual, and physical growth are all very important aspects of a student's elementary and/or early childhood education. Through learning to understand and regulate emotions and how to effectively communicate with peers, students will grow socially and emotionally. In lesson plans with varying learning techniques and correct level, students will discover how they learn best so they can maximize their ability to absorb the information given to them. Physical development promotion will help students to grow in a healthy way. I feel that these methods of teaching will help students to become more confident as a whole in themselves and in their ability to thrive.