EDF 103 Introduction to Education  
Eastern Kentucky University

Assignment Two – My Favorite Teacher

Background - A good place to start a search for the characteristics of good teachers is with our own schooling experiences. When people are asked to recall what they remember about their favorite teachers--the ones they credit most with helping them succeed in life--the responses are remarkably similar: "She was much more than just a teacher; she was a friend." "He really enjoyed teaching and cared about students." "She looked for the good in each of us." "She believed in me and never embarrassed me in front of the class." "He could teach us something and make it fun." "She liked me as a person." "She held our interest with her lively, humorous manner and her thorough knowledge of the subject.” Sound familiar?

Almost everyone’s recollections about their favorite teacher fall into three broad categories: 1) the best teachers treated students as able, worthy human beings and capable learners, 2) they made learning personally meaningful, and 3) they were knowledgeable about and genuinely interested in what they were teaching. Because they possessed these characteristics our favorite teachers were able to make lasting changes in our lives. As a matter of fact, you are probably exploring the possibility of an education career because of the personal impact one of these teachers had on your life. If you plan to be an educator and want to be a favorite teacher to your students, you will have to develop and enhance these same kinds of traits in yourself.

Assignment - Hopefully, each of us has had teachers who have made a significant positive impact on our lives. Think about all the teachers you have had and choose your favorite, the one who helped you most to get to where you are today. Once again, what you write will be used as part of your portfolio, our study and with your career exploration.

To help you remember and describe this teacher, please answer the following questions:

Who was your favorite teacher?

What is the first characteristic that comes to mind when you think about your favorite teacher?

Describe a specific event that stands out in your mind that happened with that teacher.

How did your favorite teacher treat you?

FORMAT: Must be submitted electronically on Blackboard or typed (maximum 500 words- one page double spaced) with the following on the top of the page:

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<th>Social Security Number</th>
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