Path To Becoming A Hidden Champion

TC #93

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One of my favorite quote is "*It is the supreme art of the* teacher *to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge*" from Albert Einstein. I have always wanting to be a hint of help to others to find their dream and vision that will brighten their lives. And I think that teacher is the one who can do that work. I believe that teacher is a guide and a lamp in dim who arouse interest and motivate to students of learning. Therefore, I want to teach children. Also, I feel sense of satisfaction, pride and honored when I see young blossoming children having studied hard and moving their steps forward, by me teaching and giving hope and dreams to them.

I like teaching children because I can always be aware of my attitude, intentions and personality. Children make me to try keeping myself on the straight and narrow at all times in front of them. Children are like sponge and mirror that they always soak and reflect adults’ behavior. They easily tend to imitate and mimic the adults not knowing the meaning of their manners. Like that, they’ve been always great teacher to me. And I love children. I like children and love to be one of them only when I hanging out with them but not while being their teacher. I always thought that teacher shouldn’t lose her dignity even the teachers of young learners. And I thought as a teacher, becoming one of them is losing teacher’s face, but according to the lesson, I was wrong. Because the teacher has to enjoy herself in the lessons, participate actively, joyfully and openly. Also, I got to learn about the behaviors and reactions of young learners and it made me fascinate on teaching children. There are also many miss behaviors of young learners, but I love their energy. Children are always so loving and sweet that they’re delight and I feel happiness when I with them. Thus I like the atmosphere of young learners’ class and enjoy being with children.

Throughout the TESOL and TESOL for Children course, I wanted to learn the skills and methods of teaching. I love children. I take pleasure in hanging out with them at all times and also enjoy taking care of them. But I always had in my mind that I’m bad at teaching. Therefore, since I like kids a lot and I can always easily get along with any youngsters, I thought that I don’t have any skills or methods to teach, so need teaching skills and methods in order to teach young learners. However, I was incorrect. Even before I take TESOL for Children, I have always thought that create the environment, guide and lead the students to notice and have curiosity on learning new things and gives confidence to students to challenge them is a requisite of good teacher which is one of most important essential of TESOL for Children. Throughout the course, I realized that I wasn’t able to teach students because neither I wasn’t ready nor I don’t know how to teach young learners, but I just didn’t have enough confidence.

Even I naturally new some of the requisite of teachers, I also learned so many things through the course including many kinds of skills and methods that I can apply to class and students, but also how I should be and behave as a teacher. The most memorable lesson that I learned is two simplest and most basic but hardest essentials such as teacher has to enjoy the class herself and every activities must start with teachers. I believe that a good teacher is one who effectively and efficiently guides and leads students to have interest on learning new things and gives confident to students. And I took TESOL to become one of good teachers, but I faced myself that create and establish a good atmosphere with fascinating materials and activities but I was too shy to act like kids so hiding myself behind them and not enjoying the class myself. And that my behavior reminds what my teacher Dr. Frank Chavis said, “Teacher shouldn’t force their students to do something that teacher don’t willing to do”. I’m so glad that I got to find my weakness and what to correct and improve through this course.

I don’t like or agree about the current English educational system in Korea because spending ridiculously big amount of money and excessive level of studying for children are absolutely outrageous. Also, I think aiming only for making highest test scores on the official tests rather than learning English itself cannot be called studying or education. Throughout the TESOL for Children course, one of the biggest gains for me is confidence. And it gave me a thought that only having a thought of criticism about English educational system in Korea wouldn’t change or do anything to the Korean society; however, what if somebody do something? This course gave me a confidence and made me think attentively of doing something to make some changes.

May be I cannot create any big changes like make Korea to use English as second language like the Philippines or Singapore, but I believe that I can help at least some of students with learning English. I want to teach students that learning English is not only for getting higher scores on their test and hating, but also for becoming fluent and enjoying using it. To make changes in English educational system in Korea, I want to be an involver-type teacher who reflects Carl Roger’s three characteristics of teacher, EAR: empathy, authenticity, and respect. Also, I’ll be a teacher who has good teacher’s presence; smiles all the time and enjoying the class, has patience and respect in students, believing in the success of students, and give encouragement and positive and constructive feedback to students. Also, will be a teacher who doesn’t hesitate to learn in students, but influence and impact students with enthusiastic encouragement enriching their lives in good ways.