



You are #1: The Science and Reasons Behind Why We Remember Some of Our Teachers, Forever

Think back to your school days were they positive or negative? Were your teachers good or bad? This book dives into the science of why teachers have an impact on a student's life-forever! It really is like the quote by Maya Angelou, "At the end of the day people won't remember what you said or did, they will remember how you made them feel."

This book is filled with great examples (positive and negative) of the life-long impact teachers have on their students.

"At what level of schooling did you have the MOST positive memories of your teachers?"

42% Elementary School
11.5% Middle School
42% High School
4.5 % Post Secondary School

86% of respondents remembered their negative teachers
99% of respondents remembered their positive teachers

According to surveys by Blair and Jetter, There are NINE positive characteristics of teacher who had a lasting impact on students:

1. Caring– 80.3%
2. Nice– 26.3%
3. Funny– 34.8%
4. Exciting–35.4%
5. Involved–62.1%
6. Understanding –19.2%
7. Wise–25.8%
8. Humanistic– 30.8%
9. Devoted–32%

(percentage of respondents used this word or a similar word to describe the teacher)

10 things teachers can do to cause trauma in students resulting in trauma and causing a negative impact:

1. Low or inconsistent expectations
2. Negative relationships
3. Cultural insensitivity
4. Overly punitive discipline
5. Racism discrimination, and equity
6. Making assumptions
7. No access to mental health support
8. Trauma triggers
9. Insufficient family engagement and outreach
10. A stressed staff

"Teachers are with students for long periods of time and arrive in our lives when experiences are constructed with enormous impacts on our pre-adolescent brains. In other words, teachers help to construct our childhoods." (xiii)

"Giving students the opportunity to socialize and learn in an environment where they know they are safe and cared about sparks the neural pathways in students' brains, ultimately making it possible for these students to gain wisdom." (p. 91)

Teacher Leadership

"People strive to be the best they can be and when given the opportunity to shine, in an environment that allows them to make mistakes, and it is seen as growth, this will happen. This is leadership." (p. 116)

I had an algebra teacher that was so lazy he always told us to look at previous pages in the book if we had questions. This started from day #1 of the course! I remember having straight A's and one F on my report card. When I tried to talk with him and say that I am not dumb, he said, 'Maybe you are dumb in math.'" (p. 89)

I never thought I was smart until I had an amazing English teacher in 11th grade. I was in honors English and he pushed us to always think outside the box. He told me I was a good writer. He told me I'd make a great teacher. He built me back up. I wound up student-teaching with him. I will always be thankful for him." (p. 110)