



The Educator's Dilemma: Engaging Students in Knowledge Creation

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The Educator's Dilemma
The Educator's Dilemma is a concept that refers to the challenge of engaging students in the process of knowledge creation. It is a dilemma because it involves a choice between two options: either to engage students in the process of knowledge creation, or to not engage them. The dilemma is that engaging students in the process of knowledge creation is often more difficult than not engaging them, but it is also more beneficial in the long run.

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Introduction

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What are some characteristics that make teachers role models? Are the characteristics the same in school and outside of school? It may be easy to see teachers as positive role models in school, but they should also display moral decision making skills outside of school grounds. Our presentation will provide a collaborative look at what characteristics teachers should possess as role models to students, as well as the exemplary reaction a teacher should have to an ethical dilemma.

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Characteristics of a Teacher Role Model In School

One characteristic that teachers should possess is to provide a safe environment for students that foster their creativity and diverse needs. Teachers should also include technology tools in their teachings that will help strengthen their student's knowledge of subject material. Teachers should make sure that when they are in school that they take care of themselves such as having good hygiene and dressing professionally and appropriate. Teachers should also have attitudes that are positive and plighting to the students. One key point is for teachers to leave their personal lives outside of school and to uphold a professional lifestyle while in school. The teachers must be respectful toward their students as well as to co-workers and supervisors. The reason for this is because the students look up to the teacher as being their role model. What the teacher does the student will look up to them and begin to behave in the way the teacher is behaving. Teachers must make sure that their classroom is organized and well-structured. They must follow the school rules and rules that the school districts have when teaching their students. Also they must follow the standards of what and how they need to teach their students in the classroom learning environment.

Characteristics of a Teacher Role Model Out of School

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A teacher should set an example and should practice model behavior both inside and outside of the classroom. As a teacher it is very important to act with respect and positive behaviors at all times or like someone is watching at all times because you will constantly be under scrutiny once you become a teacher. It's important to remember that you might not see everyone that sees you, and we live in a time where people record on their phones without your knowledge. The media has many stories of teachers who report being harassed for other reasons when the truth behind their stories lies something that they may have done over twenty years ago. The expectation is that a teacher is warm, spontaneous, and controlled, so this means that outside of school a parent or student would not expect to see their teacher acting too out of sorts, drinking or partying to an extreme. A teacher is expected to be an upright, honest, and law abiding citizen exercising reasonable standards and behavior... It is expected that a teacher would not socialize with her students outside of the classroom. The choice to become a member of the educational team says that you understand that ethical decisions will be expected of you in all situations and that you plan to uphold the reputation of your chosen profession. Some other characteristics of teachers as role models outside of school are: being accountable, understanding, reflective, supportive, good personality, trustworthy, professional, attentive, fair, logical judgment at all times.

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Exemplary Reaction to an Ethical Dilemma

Caleb is a particularly frustrating student. He frequently annoys his classmates by tapping his pencil, making obnoxious noises, and tattling on his classmates for even the smallest misdeed. He also has a history of not paying attention while instructions are being given. While Ms. S is handing out materials for an assignment one afternoon, Caleb realizes that he has no idea what the assignment is, so he repeatedly asks her to repeat the instructions, his volume increasing with each request. His classmates, tired of his constant lack of attention, begin to ridicule Caleb. Ms. S realizes she has two choices: ignore all of the students and hope the teasing will teach Caleb to stop harassing the other students and to pay better attention, or put a stop to the emotional bullying.

She chooses to walk back to the front of the classroom and gain the students' attention. "Class, I feel it is time we visit our classroom rules again, as it seems they have slipped our minds." She then addresses all of the classroom rules, going into more detail on "pay attention to the teacher" and "speak kindly to each other at all times," without singling out students who were bullying or not paying attention. She then goes over the instructions for the assignment again, cautioning that this would be the final time, and finishes handing out her classroom materials.

Conclusion

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Being a teacher comes with big responsibilities. The students are with the teacher longer than they are with their parents and being a positive role model for these students is very important. Inside the classroom a teacher needs to make sure the environment is safe and comfortable for their students, manage the classroom effectively, positively communicate and conduct themselves professionally to ensure they are displaying positive characteristics to their students. Outside the classroom, teachers should also maintain good characteristics such as being accountable, understanding, reflective, supportive, good personality, trustworthy, respectful, professional, attentive, orderly, law abiding, fair, and using logical judgment at all times. A good teacher role model will also effectively solve any ethical dilemmas which may arise without hindering their values or the schools values.

Collage of Main Points

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