

SELF - ASSESSMENT AND TEACHING

by:

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Self-assessments can be used in both professional and personal areas. You can use them to take a solid look at what you do and don't do well. Writing one can sometimes leave a person wondering where to start but following some simple guidelines will help you make the most out of your assessments.

It can be experienced that performance is a truly subjective thing at times. While there are plenty of goals that can be measured to see who the best reporters might be, there are other goals that seem completely random. Depending on what you did in the classroom, you might not be able to achieve a goal set for others, but someone you are expected to try and achieve it.

Self-assessment is the utility that will promote positive personal change. Everybody knows that evaluation is not always fun. People tense up when they hear the word. No one wants to be forced or guilted or pressured into digging in the garbage. People are afraid that is what evaluation often entails.

With that thought in your mind, let us remember the saying that diamonds are found in deep dark caves, with the dust and grime of coal. Once the stone containing a diamond is found it is broken into bits. Those broken bits include the valuable diamonds. The process is very much like applying personal evaluation. You find the gem and then you can refine it.

Gold diggers are exactly what they are called, people who dig to find hidden gold. Even gold that is discovered needs to be refined and that involves immense amounts of heat.

Once the gold has been properly heated the grime that is called dross is then removed. This is the process for silver also.

There is hidden gold in every person. What separates people is some people find the gold and some don't, some people refine it once it is found, and some decide to set the unrefined chunk aside to maybe be refined some other time. This is a great time to find and refine the gold within your personal character and abilities.

The teacher who teaches children textbook style will never gain an insight into real teaching which comes with instinct. Using self-assessment, you learn about the person you teach. You get to know their backgrounds and can relate your lessons in a manner which is universally understood. This is where the skill lies, in being able to share information with people. They will astound you, disappoint you, challenge you and question your methods. This is where a person with the ability to pass on information will succeed, as they are open to challenge and relish it.

They say that a good teacher will be able to lead by example. There are so many qualities that a teacher needs to have in order to become a good teacher and be a good leader in the classroom. One of the easiest ways for a teacher to teach is to gain respect. One of the easiest ways to gain respect is to lead by example. Therefore, it is important that a teacher lead by example.

The teacher who remembers that they are still learning is the teacher who succeeds. The knowledge gained during a teaching career is vast and far reaching and teaches a teacher to be a better person and better mentor. Teaching is a lifetime career, though one that never ceases to evolve for those who are open to learning as well as teaching.

How does one become a good teacher? Well, any teacher worth his/her salt can be prepared. The hard part is developing that amorphous sense of perspective. Every teacher is unique and individual and possesses their own unique and original styles. Finding

common ground and taking the best qualities from both is the key to being an effective teacher.

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