



TED 535b: Elementary Math

Ideal math classroom

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An ideal math classroom for me would look and sound like a classroom group that is engaged and enjoy math without even knowing they are doing it. I want to have a classroom filled with artistic projects all around the room that if someone were to walk in, they would have never thought it would have been a math room or that a math room could have looked that fun. I want the room to be filled with exciting, thoughtful, engaging conversations with one another. I want the students to learn from each other and share strategies in solving the equation. Students are supporting one another and learning from each other and advancing their understanding of math in the making all while not even being aware that they are doing so. They are enjoying the art of math without being frustrated or angry with themselves for getting something wrong. They are learning from their mistakes and are not penalized for it. We are having friendly math competitions and games to engage students. I would want my students to know I am their to enrich their minds and create a healthy relationship with math. I am there to try to undo any negative stigma in connection to math. I am there to have them learn from their mathematical mistakes and reassure them to know it is okay to do so.

A typical day in my classroom would not be in the class, it would be outside in everyday life. We would explore the park, the playground, the football field, the baseball field, the different buildings around us and count how many certain items there are of something. Discover how to solve for an equation using what we see around us. Sort leaves into different categories depending on their color and graphing how much we have of each color. We would make airplanes out of paper and throw them to calculate the distance from point A to point B. My classroom would be constantly moving and exploring all things around them while also relating



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to the beauty of math. My hope would be to make learning fun for them. Also to have them understand the why and what of the lesson. The passion for the subject would hopefully illuminate through the lesson and I'd hope they would form a passion for math as well or at least a small excitement for it.