

Types of Teachers

Good teachers...

- Are challenging
- Are firm, but fair
- Encourage class participation
- Take the time to talk to students/ answer questions
- Are knowledgeable
- Give constructive criticism
- Work to build a student up/ positive reinforcements

What works...

- Constant praise – especially when directed at what the child has been doing (rather than just general 'well done', use 'I like the way you're doing x')
- Structuring sessions, planning
- Using ongoing projects
- Breaking topics into small chunks to help concentration
- Varying something hard with something fun
- Activity worksheets (children are writing, not just listening, so have sense of completion)
- Assess their ability at the very beginning i.e. when you first start teaching them and then include a small assessment in each visit
- Assess both their writing and their oral speech
- Having them ask you questions
- Doing something tangible e.g. writing a letter and posting it

Bad teachers...

- Give no feedback
- Are too strict
- Are unprepared for lessons
- Are patronizing/ condescending
- Are not open to student input

What doesn't work...

- Ongoing stories/projects may be boring for some
- The child may be very shy
- Find something that interests them
- Work on building a relationship with them
- Talk to other adults (parents, teachers etc)
- Difficulties when you come across something you thought you wouldn't have to explain and then did, particularly abstract concepts. Many children have problems with the language of science and maths
- Siblings sometimes tell answers or put child down – ask *them* to explain it!

