

## Elementary School Teacher

One career I am deciding to look into is being an elementary school teacher. I have been wanting to be a school teacher for a long time. I have always wanted to be with younger children and teach them their first lessons in math, writing, reading and the joy of being in their second home, school.

Elementary school teachers teach children from kindergarten up to the sixth grade. They introduce basics like numbers, language, science, and social studies. I would like to teach in the 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Those are the years I feel are the crucial years where children must know the basics and I want to make sure they do. I would like to teach an English class. I can do this because I am good at explaining things in reading and writing also comprehending stories and text. I am also good at writing and my grammar isn't that bad either. I would teach the techniques I was taught and also some of my own. I also have good organization skills. I am also patient. I will not just give them work to do individually. There would be groups, class discussions, and I would give each student one on one attention when they need it.

Teachers on average work in classrooms of 15 to 20 kids. They work from 8 to 10 hours a day, which amounts to about 50 hours a week. They get 2 to 3 months off over the summer which is spent preparing for the next semester of school. People say that it can be tiring but they have a high level of job satisfaction. That's all I really care about. As long as I'm satisfied doing my job, then the stress will be subordinate to my job.

Having 2 to 3 months off over the summer and all of the vacations in between spent preparing would be good for me. Having all of those days off and nothing to do would bore me. Plus I have so many creative ideas that I would spend some of my time planning them so they wouldn't squander.

Experienced elementary school teachers typically earn \$30,000 to \$50,000 a year. This is not much but I do not want to be extremely rich. Although I do want to have more money than just enough to get by. I may have to take this into consideration.

High school teachers, special education teachers and college professors make more money, but that is not my type of field. If teaching is really what I want to do then maybe I'll have to think about those professions.

**Career Profile 1**

To be an elementary school teacher you must have a license, a bachelors degree, and you also must complete an approved teacher education program and have practiced teaching (student teacher). I remember being in classes with student teachers in training. They would help the teacher out, and often share some of their knowledge in that subject. Sometimes they would even plan some lessons for the class. I think this is very necessary if one would want to become a teacher. This is a chance to show them what it is like teaching. It's a good experience to have so you know how it would be on your first day teaching. These and other things are what I have recognized and noticed when one is in a class. When I go to college I will make sure I go and student teach because I know it will help me in the long run.

Other jobs that are like teaching are computer training, high school teaching, social worker, recreation therapist and child and youth workers. Like I said before I may consider being a high school teacher, but the other ones I will also keep in mind. I am being very optimistic in choosing my future career.

I think I would be a good school teacher because I like working with younger kids, I have so many creative ideas already in teaching, and if I do become a teacher I think I would be very happy because it is what I have always wanted to be.

Though being a school teacher has it's ups like impacting children's lives in a positive way, and being with children who may consider you their role model, there are some downs.

When I got into high school I started to notice that more and more people were asking me "What do you want to major in?" or "What do you want to be when you get out of college?" I tell them a writer, a photographer, and so on, but then when I get up to a teacher they always talk about the low pay and working with out of control and immature kids. It's not like all young kids are that way, you just need to know how to control them when necessary. I do not want to live a life being unhappy because I just picked a job that makes a lot of money.

So becoming an elementary teacher is still one of my top choices.