



Teacher's Pet: Wanna Be One?

News & Announcements

Happy Holidays!

Tutoring will continue through December. Our office will be closed December 22 - 29th.

The next issue of "The Smart Connection" will be February, 2005. Best wishes for a happy holiday from Smart Tutor Referrals!

Events Around Victoria

Saturday, Dec. 11 and 18
Seasonal Storytime at the Juan de Fuca Branch library. Join us for traditional favourites, plus some new seasonal offerings. A drop-in storytime for families with children ages 3-6 from 10:30-11:15am. No registration required. Phone 391-0653.

Monday, December 13
Storytellers' Guild Meeting. For people who love to tell stories; for people who love to listen; for people of all ages. \$3 or whatever one can afford to pay. Meet at 7:15pm at 1831 Fern St. Phone 479-9118.

On-Going

Island Parent Radio airs on Tuesday evenings, 7-8pm, on Village 900 (AM dial). Join hosts Paul Abra and Allison Rees as they explore the joys and challenges of parenting each week. Inspirational, informative, entertaining and thought-provoking. Re-airs (most) Sunday mornings, 10-11am.

by *Dahlia Miller*

"One pound of learning requires ten pounds of common sense to apply it."

Persian Proverb

Some people might call it "sucking up" but we prefer to refer to it as "modeling positive student behaviour". Being a teacher's pet pays off.

The fact is teachers are human. They like what they like, and they don't like what they don't like. Teachers like to see a spark in their students' eyes. They eat that up. Of course, teachers want to be objective; they look for the best in all their students. But the bottom line is, they are human. They respond better to what they like.

What does this mean for you? It means that, if you know what your teachers like, you can give it to them and they'll like that. They'll smile more favourably on you and on the work that you submit to them. You'll be paving the way to better grades*.

You don't have to suck up to "model positive student behaviours". We've interviewed over a hundred tutors on what qualities or behaviours they like best in students.

Below is a list of attitudes and actions that teachers go ga-ga for. Use them and watch as your relationship with your teacher becomes easier.

**We offer no guarantees on this outlandish claim.*

Teachers Love Students Who (Are):

► **Motivated**

- Want to learn
- Have a goal of becoming more educated
- Looking for help or instruction
- Studying by choice

► **Diligent**

- Study hard
- Try their best to learn

► **Consistent**

- Hand in completed work regularly
- Come to class on time

► **Prepared**

- Come to class with all materials
- Ready to work

► **Interested**

- Ask questions
- Think about what they're learning

About Us

Our Mission Is:

▶ To provide top quality, flexible learning support and service to students and parents of students through:

Superior private tutoring matched specifically to each student's needs and stimulating workshops.

▶ To enhance students' skills and increase learning confidence through individualized support, recognizing each student's unique abilities.

▶ To improve the quality of life, in individuals and communities through education.

Our tutors are certified teachers and professionals. Each is carefully screened and selected to match individual students' needs.

We help students to achieve.

For more information, and free study tips, visit us on-line at:

www.SmartTutorReferrals.com

Consider different angles to look at new information from.

Consider: Why is this topic being taught?; What might come next?; What's the bigger picture?; Investigate more on the topic

▶ Work With (not against)

Have a friendly attitude
Adaptable to change
Willing to try new things
Participate in class
Get to work when work is given
Create positive rapport with teacher
Respect classmates and teacher
Honest
Suggest approaches that work for them. Ask questions to get the answer in the best way (for example, ask the teacher to draw an example, tell a story, explain the basic rules, etc.)

▶ Organized

Set goals and check back on them
Have notes, assignments, quizzes and other course materials organized in binders
Have time in schedule for study and review

▶ Take care of themselves

Exercise
Sleep
Eat good food
Drink lots of water
Have fun
Get involved with friends, sports, interest groups, music, community

▶ Responsible

Take notes in class
Do homework
Study for exams
Not distracting others in class
Review notes
Keep up with class readings
If miss a class, get notes from a classmate who takes good notes

This is a long list. Luckily, most of the things on it are just plain good for you and many of them take little effort. The choice is yours.

"Teachers open the door. You enter by yourself."

Chinese Proverb

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Silly School Jokes

Teacher: Does anyone know which month has 28 days?

Pupil: All of them!

Teacher: I told you to stand at the end of the line.

Pupil: I tried, but there was someone already there!

The child comes home from his first day at school.

Mother asks, "What did you learn today?"

The child replies, "Not enough. I have to go back tomorrow."