

# Introduction

As a new teacher, your administration will expect you to be a quick study. Based on your education and common sense it will be concluded that you know how to teach. However, teaching certification and readiness are not always the same. College methods classes don't always prepare students for the day-to-day challenges of the classroom. This book will close that gap so that you feel and look more experienced. Parents will feel confident to bring their children to your early grade classroom or day-care program.

This book is an easy read. You will not have to struggle through heavy philosophy. I will walk you through it all. Because Brand New Teacher is presented as a theatrical metaphor, ideas come to life. Picture yourself as an actor, director or musical conductor blending classroom management and teaching techniques into an enthusiastic learning environment.

The book is organized into four sections

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**Part One** In this section, you learn the vital link between teaching and acting. This section will help you develop your teaching persona. You will be able to teach and reach your students! You will project your lessons enthusiastically, and you will instruct your students effectively! In the first chapter you are encouraged to examine self development through assertive training, affirmations and relaxation. Development in this area is a prelude to learning acting in Chapter Two.

**Part Two** This section illustrates the importance of organization in the classroom. You will learn how to transform a group of students into a class community; you will learn the steps to recognize every student early-on. You will be given suggestions for setting up furniture that will change the space effectively in your classroom. You will learn design to create a sense of clarity. All of this will be shown with illustrations. Just follow the steps.

**Part Three** This sections helps you add specific props to your set (classroom) to instill curiosity into students' minds. This will encourage students to take part in learning. Create a print-rich environment by following simple ideas. Look at Math as the fun and

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creative subject it can be! Learn initial lessons and activities that will grab your students' attention. If you need a generic Art lesson as a follow-up, you have a set of them to choose from. No need to hunt and peck for ideas—they are all in this book!

**Part Four** Every actor needs his lines. The chapters in this section give you the timed lines and lessons to perform during your first week; or, whatever week you choose to start. These lessons address all subject areas and teach you a multi-disciplinary approach. You will use the senses to vary your approaches.

📖 You will be given transitional tips that could take years of experience to collect. Use these ideas to build lessons and activities for the rest of the year. It will work!

📖 I have developed questions from various picture books that will move you beyond the initial knowledge question in shared reading activities. You won't have to wonder what to do or say next because it is all here.

📖 Take the worry out of dealing with common behavior problems. I tell you what to do—and what to do if it doesn't work.

After reading this book, you will adapt what has worked for you. Add these resources to your repertoire and become the teacher you hoped you would be!

Carol Keeney