

Cleek, Kelly E.
TED 400
Metaphor



When I was a little girl I had a great riding instructor that taught me everything that I need to know about riding a horse. I can clearly remember countless times when I would get scared and she would say “Cowboy up Kelly.” Or when I fell off and she would tell me “That I had to get right back up and ride that horse.” It is interesting now how those simple yet powerful words have helped me in different areas of my life that doesn’t involve a horse.

I have had so many challenges that I have faced and when I have had to tell myself to “Cowboy up.” Even though it is difficult, I face any trial that comes my way and I do my best to overcome it. Sometimes I succeed and sometimes I fail miserably. But I get up in the morning and try again. I think that as a teacher each day there I will put to the test on my ability to be tuff and not let my emotions get the best of me.

As a mentor I believe that it is my responsibility to have a positive impact on my students. I want to be a leader and good example. I want my students to know that whatever life throws at them they can succeed and be anything they want to be. As my trainer taught me I want to be strong and confident and to have the ability to control and overcome all difficult students, parents and administrators.

In the six years that I have already working in a classroom I have dealt with situations when I have been frustrated and overwhelmed and thought there was no way that I could handle the pressures and insecurities that I had about my teaching ability or able to be a really good teacher. But each time I felt discouraged and that my career as a teacher was going to be cut short, I have reminded myself that I love to work with children that even know I have a lot of learning to do I have a passion for teaching, children and my content area.