

Motivating grade 7 mentors (or anyone)

e.g. for grade 2 budding reading, math tutoring, or PE skills

What? You don't necessarily want to be a teacher? I'm shocked of course!

Perhaps don't think about mentoring primary students specifically as teaching.

### **Let's call it mentoring**

What do you think you might want to eventually do for a living?

Do you aspire to stay at the bottom of any chosen profession? To just get your foot in the door and stay there? Or do you also think about moving up some professional "ladder" someday?

Examples

For your part time high school job would you rather be the burger flipper or the manager of the burger flippers? To do so you will need to be able to teach new burger flippers.

If you become a fire-fighter or police officer, will you aspire to someday become a higher paid Sergeant, Lieutenant or Captain or to stay a beat cop? There is nothing wrong with wanting to be a beat cop for life, or a teacher instead of an administrator if that is what you truly want and love to do. BUT if you want to move up in any job, in any organization you need to be able to supervise AND teach or mentor basic skills to those under your command.

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- Retail Sales managers mentor junior sales staff.
- Anyone who owns and operates their own company in any business must be an excellent mentor of hired staff in order to succeed.
- Business executives, CEOs and corporate presidents get to the top through their ability to mentor junior executives and sales people.
- If you are a judge you in effect "school" lawyers and juries before you every day.
- Going into medicine? More highly paid Head nurses and Medical chiefs mentor nurses and doctors under their supervision.
- Going into banking? Bank managers mentor and manage junior staff.
- School Administrators – Principals, VPs and department heads are first and foremost teachers who then train for and show an aptitude to mentor, manage and inspire teachers and staff in their school.
- Film directors are teachers to the "stars", camera, lighting, stunt-coordinators, etc.
- Sports coaches of course, even in the NHL, NBA, MLB, or any pro-sport, moved up from amateur coach through high-school and university strictly because their basic teaching / mentoring skills were outstanding
- Head librarian, Head Accountant, Insurance Sales Head are all mentors to Jr. staff
- Physio-therapist and other health care professionals teach patients every visit
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In addition to this, one who can teach others can teach oneself better. During this age of lifelong learning and career changes - you are not always going to want to take a course on some activity, hobby or skill. If you learn to mentor or teach others, eventually you will acquire better skills to teach yourself from a book, manual or online course outline.

Note: BCIT – many instructors (teachers) worked in hand-skill jobs – plumbing, pipe-fitting, wood framing, automotives, etc. for some years – realized they had good mentoring skills (and perhaps getting older grew tired of lifting heavy cold things) – trained as instructors and now pass on those hand-skills to future construction professionals.

**Not everyone is good at mentoring others. Can you?  
Are you interested in learning how?**