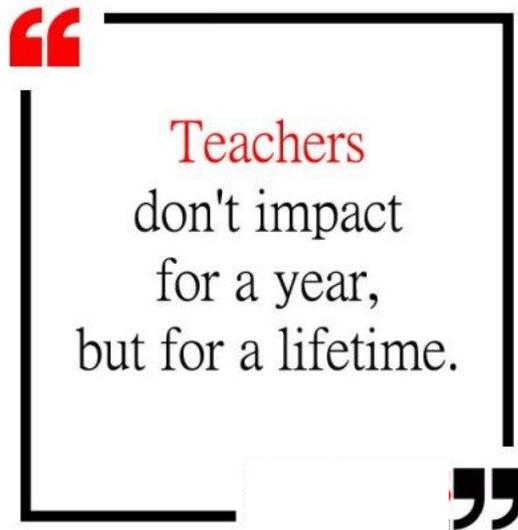
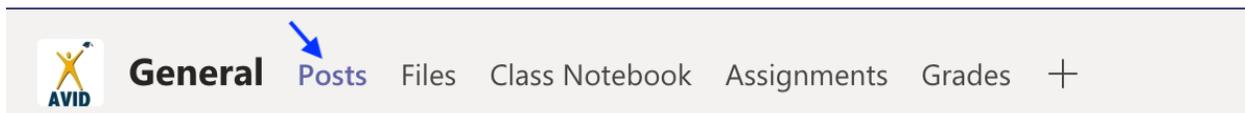


Bell-ringer

Directions: Read the quote below. Write to explain what the quote means to you in the “Posts” section in Teams.



Four ways to support your teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week

By Newsela staff on 05.07.19

Word Count **821**

Level **930L**



Image 1. Monika Moorman's fourth-graders in Broward County, Florida, work on an activity together. Moorman says she loves to receive thank-you notes from students.

Teacher Appreciation Week is here. That makes it a good time to think of ways to honor the teachers who inspire, educate and care about the students they work with year after year.

Newsela spoke to 11 teachers. They shared the struggles they face, what makes them feel appreciated and the ways their students make their difficult jobs worth it. We looked at their responses. They helped us come up with four ways students can show their appreciation for current and former teachers both during Teacher Appreciation Week and beyond.

Write A Letter To Say Thank You

Some teachers said they don't always feel appreciated. Not everyone realizes how hard of a job it is to be a teacher. They shared about working long hours. Teachers don't always get to go home when students leave for the day. Many work long hours both at school and at home preparing lessons for the next day or next week and grading assignments.

This work might be "behind-the-scenes" to students, but it makes teachers feel happy when their students notice a particularly fun class or a time when a teacher is able to help them really understand something. It's also just nice to point out when a teacher makes you feel inspired or cared about.

An easy way to make teachers feel appreciated is to write them a thank-you note. Be sure to include any favorite parts of their class. Share what the teacher did that really had an impact on you.

Natalie Valles is a high school teacher in California and has been a teacher for 22 years. She said kids coming back to say "thank you" makes it all worth it.

Monika Moorman is a fourth-grade teacher in Florida. She agreed that saying thank you, especially in the form of a note, helps.

"I cherish notes and letters I receive from my students, their parents and grandparents," Moorman said. It helps her see that she made a difference in a student's life.

Visit A Former Teacher

Another simple way to show your appreciation is to visit a teacher you had last year or a few years ago. Many teachers mentioned they love seeing and hearing from former students. It makes them realize that their work matters.

Nancy Biddinger is a teacher from Florida. She said she loves it when she sees former students around town who remember her class and tell her how much they liked it.

Another Florida teacher, Martina Blanco, added that getting to see her students grow up is an added benefit to being a teacher. She especially loves when they come to visit as older students.

If you want to visit a former teacher, the best time to go is during their "off-period" or lunch. If you go to a different school than your former teacher, email them in advance. Find out when a good time to visit would be.

Put Away Your Cellphone

Putting your cellphone away in class is an easy thing any student can do. It may seem helpful to look up an answer to a question. However, teachers feel like they are competing with cellphones for students' attention. They can make teachers feel less respected as a source of information.

Valles says students who use cellphones "don't need to know information and they don't need to think too hard." When teachers are trying to get students to think critically or remember a concept, this can be a huge challenge.



If you find yourself using your phone during class, you might be making your teacher's job harder. Try to think hard about an answer before immediately reaching for your phone. Think about how you are staying in the present moment while you're paying attention in class instead of checking social media.

Listen And Learn

The teachers who spoke to Newsela had many different struggles. There were many different reasons why they wanted to be a teacher. However, they all did agree on one thing. All the teachers mentioned wanting to see their students learn and thrive.

Just the other day, Kirstin Sobotka from West Virginia said she watched another teacher tear up at a student response. "She was overwhelmed by the learning and connections made by the students," Sobotka said. "Those moments are priceless," she said.

Hilary Alley, a teacher from Chicago, Illinois, agreed.

"Connecting with students and teaching them right at their level is magical," Alley said.

This tip hardly requires any action at all. Just know that when you learn and succeed, you'll be showing your teacher why they do what they do.

Thank you to our Newsela Exemplary Educators: Hilary Alley, Sarah Bayer, Nancy Biddinger, Martina Blanco, Robert Champagne, Monica Moorman, Gregory Odell, Kristen Rafferty, Christine Scoppa, Kirstin Sobotka and Natalie Valles.

Quiz

1 Which sentence from the article would be MOST important to include in a summary of the article?

- (A) Teachers don't always get to go home when students leave for the day.
- (B) If you go to a different school than your former teacher, email them in advance.
- (C) Try to think hard about an answer before immediately reaching for your phone.
- (D) All the teachers mentioned wanting to see their students learn and thrive.

2 Read the list of sentences from the article.

1. *It's also just nice to point out when a teacher makes you feel inspired or cared about.*
2. *An easy way to make teachers feel appreciated is to write them a thank-you note.*
3. *She especially loves when they come to visit as older students.*
4. *Putting your cellphone away in class is an easy thing any student can do.*

What central idea does this evidence support?

- (A) Teachers often wonder what happens to students who leave their classes.
- (B) When teachers find ways to make class fun, students often learn more.
- (C) There are different things you can do to show teachers they make a difference.
- (D) Writing a thank-you note is the simplest way to show a teacher you care.

3 Read the section "Put Away Your Cellphone."

What does this section show that other sections do not?

- (A) something students do that can be a problem for teachers
- (B) something students can do to tell teachers thank you
- (C) statements from teachers about being in the classroom
- (D) statements from teachers about how students affect them

4 Read the sentence from the section "Write A Letter To Say Thank You."

Many work long hours both at school and at home preparing lessons for the next day or next week and grading assignments.

What is one way the placement of this sentence develops the importance of Teacher Appreciation Week?

- (A) It illustrates the need for teachers to go home earlier each day.
- (B) It introduces a reason more holidays for teachers are needed.
- (C) It emphasizes the skill of teachers who prepare good lessons.
- (D) It elaborates on the work teachers do that often goes unnoticed.