

Preface

It has been a journey of discovery as I have explored the art and craft of teaching. When I started out years ago, I didn't have any idea that I would be still trying to "figure" things out today.

As a young woman in the 1960s my career choices were secretarial work, cosmetology, nursing, or teaching. My father recommended teaching as a great career for me because I could get a job anywhere my husband was transferred and I would have the summers off to be with my children. There were limited options for women then, and originally I did think that I would stop teaching when I had a family. Well, this exciting journey has lasted much longer than I expected.

Part of that journey for me has been the move from the "one size fits all" model of instruction to recognizing that our schools and classrooms are full of diverse learners who have different backgrounds from "nature and nurture." Instrumental in knowing our learners is being knowledgeable about their different learning styles and the different ways we all have of being intelligent. Teachers who have the tools, repertoire, and "style" to respond to their learners' differences will be able to intrigue, engage, and teach them everyday in ways that ensure their continuing growth and achievement. This book can help you explore the diversity of styles, intelligences, and thinking in your classroom so that all students may reach their potential.