

Teachers, get to know your colleagues from around Malaysia and share views and teaching ideas with them. If you would like to be featured in Getting To Know You, answer these questions and email your photo and answers to schooltimes@nstp.com.my. For every published contribution we'll pay RM40.

TeachEd

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Q. Please introduce yourself.

My name is Salmah Abd. Rahim. I am 45 years old, married with four children. I obtained my Bachelors and Masters in TESL from UPM.

Q. When did you start your teaching career?

I started my teaching career at SM Sains Machang Kelantan in 1989. I have been teaching for about 23 years.

Q. Where did or do you teach?

Currently I am teaching in SK Bandar Baru Salak Tinggi in Sepang, Selangor.

Q. What subject do you teach?

English

Q. What do you see as the challenges in the classroom?

The main challenges are making students speak in English and developing an interest in English reading materials.

Q. How do you motivate your students?

By speaking to them in English, by making my lessons more interactive and by showing them that English is not only about making correct sentences all the time.

Q. How do you make sure weaker students are able to follow your lessons?

I use very simple English and include realia into my lessons.

*My **daily motivation** as a teacher is going into class knowing that I am able to be a part of developing excellent students.*

*Salmah Abd. Rahim,
SM Sains Machang, Kelantan*



Q. What is your most memorable teaching moment?

When students come and tell me how much they have learnt from me and how it has helped them.

Q. What or who inspired you to be a teacher?

My father, who wished that one of his children, would become a teacher. He is my inspiration. And I am glad to be a teacher as I have found my true calling in this profession.

Q. What is your daily motivation as a teacher?

Going into class knowing that I am able to be a part of developing excellent students.

Q. What is the most valuable lesson you've learnt as a teacher?

Expect the unexpected. Learn to learn from them. They too have much invaluable knowledge to share. Be with them every step of the way. Walk with them and not just walk in front of them.

Q. What would you consider your greatest achievement as a teacher?

My students sharing with me how my methods of teaching have helped them improve tremendously.

Q. If you could wave a wand and change one thing in the education system, what would that be?

Have a smaller number of students in class.

Q. What are your thoughts on being a teacher?

Being a teacher means a lot to me. I won't change it for any other profession. I am glad I am a teacher, I feel good when people call me "Cikgu", I feel it is the sweetest thing for anyone to call me as such.

**"Teachers are the compasses that activate
the magnets of our curiosity, knowledge and
wisdom."**

***By Siti Khairiyah Sulaiman, 15,
SMK Kampung Gelam, Malacca***