
ASMITA SODHI, University of Victoria

Ms. Frizzle Teaches Calculus

Of many influential teachers in my life, one is undoubtedly Ms. Valerie Frizzle, the teacher in the Magic School Bus series who encourages her third-grade class to “Take chances, make mistakes, and get messy!”. This is something we hope our students do when looking for a solution to a problem: try something, maybe get stuck, and learn from the experience. However, if all they see is perfectly modelled solutions, it will be hard for students to recognize when a strategy is not working. In this talk, I’ll share ways in which I’ve tried to foster a culture of taking chances, making mistakes, and getting messy in my classroom when teaching integration techniques.