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# Teacher



## Synopsis

TEACHER was first published in 1963 to excited acclaim. Its author, Sylvia Ashton-Warner, who lived in New Zealand and spent many years teaching Maori children, found that Maoris taught according to British methods were not learning to read. They were passionate, moody children, bred in an ancient legend-haunted tradition; how could she build them a bridge to European culture that would enable them to take hold of the great joy of reading? Ashton-Warner devised a method whereby written words became prized possessions for her students. Today, her findings are strikingly relevant to the teaching of socially disadvantaged and non-English-speaking students. TEACHER is part diary, part inspired description of Ashton-Warner's teaching method in action. Her fiercely loved children come alive individually, as do the unique setting and the character of this extraordinary woman.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

'Teacher' is part diary, part inspired description of Ashton-Warner's teaching method in action. her fiercely loved children come alive individually, as do the unique setting and the character of this extraordinary woman.

Maxine Hong Kingston, Senior Lecturer for Creative Writing at the University of California, Berkeley, delivered the 2000 William E. Massey Lectures at Harvard, on which this book is based. For her memoirs and fiction, *The Woman Warrior*, *China Men*, *Tripmaster Monkey*, and *Hawaii One*

Summer, Kingston has earned numerous awards, among them the National Book Award, the National Book Critics Circle Award for Nonfiction, the Pen West Award for Fiction, an American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters Literature Award, and a National Humanities Medal from the National Endowment for the Humanities, as well as the rare title of "Living Treasure of Hawai'i." In addition, The Fifth Book of Peace will be published in the Spring of 2003.

Years ago I used Sylvia Ashton-Warner's approach with my first graders who were native English speakers. Every morning they chose a word and that was their word for the day. Their collection of words were usually the first words they read.

I love this book! Every first grade teacher should teach reading as this teacher does. And every kindergarten teacher should use it in the Spring to help children prepare for first grade. So kind to children. So understanding.

The book has transcended decades of fads in education. It is still the definitive work on learning and teaching, and very useful to anyone who cares about the student.

I have wanted to read this for a long time. It completely lived up to expectations.

I have a new way of teaching

Probably dated but I am glad someone (a teacher) told me about it and I was able to read it.

most insightful, then and now

The book that started it all! Amazing insight. Inspiring.

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