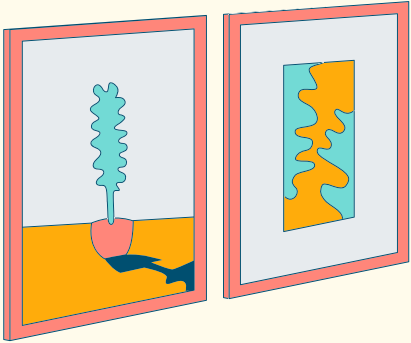


5 Educational Influences

Madeleine Potter

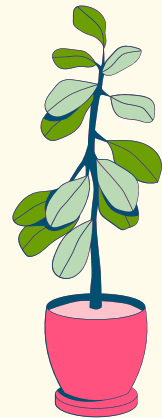




Growing Up in England

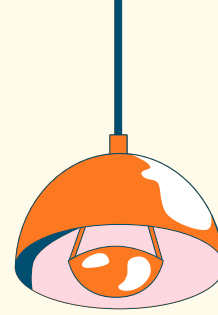


In England, we start school at age 4. We wore uniforms which I loved as a child because I hated picking out an outfit. I did not grow up the richest so it was great that all the students wore the same clothes and shoes everyday. Growing up I loved to play teacher with my stuffed animals. I was a very independent child and would have no trouble playing games with myself or with my imaginary friend who was Dobby from Harry Potter. Looking back on my childhood I was very very lucky to have loving parents. They did fight a lot and I remember the day they told me they were getting a divorce.





My Siblings

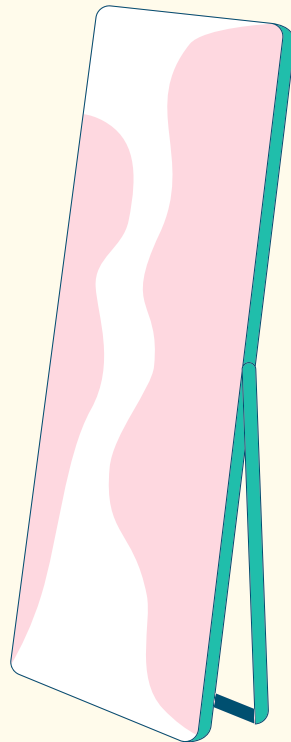


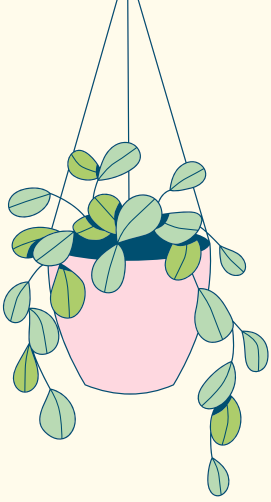
I have two siblings. My brother, Alfie, is 17 and Lizzy is 11. Being an older sister is a hard job but also very rewarding. Lizzy and I have always been really close despite our 10 year age difference. She is very mature for her age and I am learning from her every day. When I was her age I was very insecure and as a young woman I struggled to fit in. She is very confident in herself and will stick up for those who cannot stick up for themselves. She is so smart and always knows what to say. I always want to strive to be a great role model for both of them.



Highschool Experience

In early highschool I was a part of the “popular” group. Although I was typically the subject of their jokes. Growing up as a young woman is so difficult when everyone’s body is changing at different paces. I became very insecure in myself and this led to unhealthy eating habits. I kept this a secret from everyone. It took me a long, long time to know that this was happening because the people saying all this awful stuff to me were really just insecure in themselves and projected that on me.





• Grade 10 • Social Studies Teacher

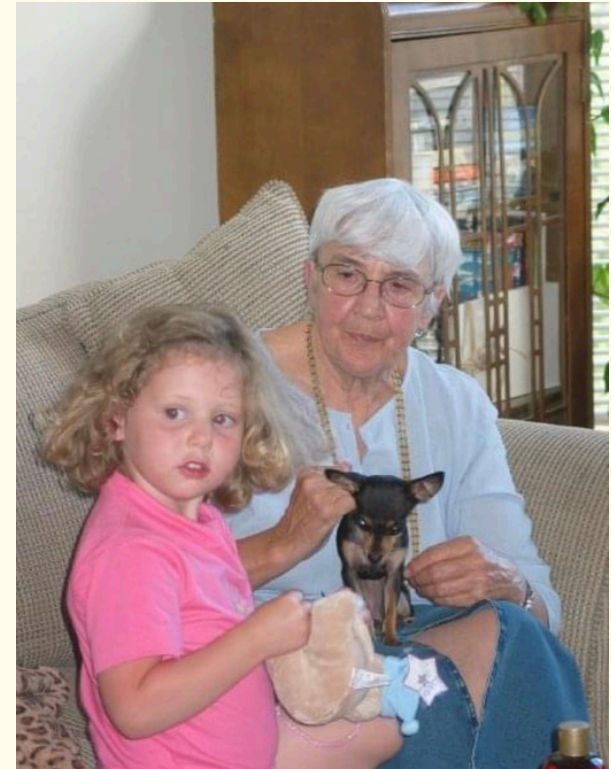


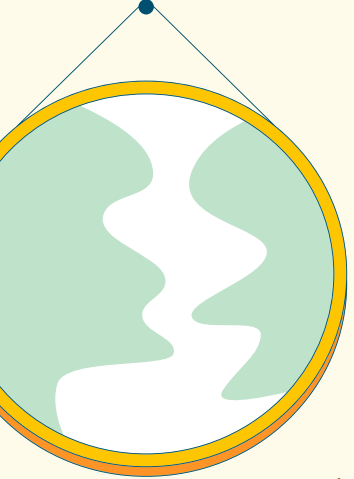
In grade 10 I had a social studies teacher who was Indigenous and she taught us from her own knowledge and not just the textbook.

I remember one day she spoke about Residential Schools and cried in front of the class because she was a 1st generation residential school survivor. Now, being more educated about what we took from Indigenous peoples I appreciate her lessons so much more and I wish I could go back to learn it from her all again. This class was the first class that we were taught about what happened between the Canadian government and Indigenous peoples. This class stuck with me subconsciously because I always loved to take Indigenous classes in University and I always want to stay educated in that space.

Grandma Fern

My great grandma was an elementary school teacher. I always loved to hear about her times as a teacher. She had been retired since I was a little girl. I went to White Rock in the summers. She did the crossword in the newspaper every day. She would tell us about her travels she would do in the summers. As the first child to attend university in the family since she went I know she would be very proud of me especially because I am in school to be a teacher. I loved my time with her in the summers in White Rock. We would always have mango and a piece of dark chocolate in the morning. I wish I could go back and ask her many more questions about teaching.





Thank You

