6 Education Theorists
That All Teachers Should Know

Lev Vygotsky
*Zone of Proximal Development (ZPD) – The range of skills that are a little bit more difficult than what a student can do independently.
*Scaffolding – Changing the level of support to meet the ability of the child

Jean Piaget
*Schema – The things a child already knows. Students connect new knowledge to an existing schema
*Constructivism – Students learn by doing, rather than by being told

B. F. Skinner
*Behaviorism – Positive reinforcement (praise, rewards, etc.) strengthens behavior or increases the likelihood that the behavior will be repeated. Negative reinforcement (punishment) pushes a child away from a behavior.

Jerome Bruner
*Spiral Curriculum – Children can tackle challenging topics in age appropriate ways. These topics can be revisited and expanded upon year after year

Benjamin Bloom
*Bloom's Taxonomy – A hierarchy of learning objectives starting with knowledge and growing in complexity to evaluation.

Howard Gardner
*Multiple Intelligences – Humans have several ways of processing information (musical, visual, verbal, logical, etc.)