# **Teacher Biography Template**

As a young child, Julia Gonzalez watched her older siblings going to school, wishing she too could go. Her aunt Elizabeth was a teacher, and Julia enjoyed sitting with her when she graded papers or prepared her lesson.

When she started attending school, Miss Gonzalez found her drawn to her first teacher, Ms. Edwards. She liked to help her teacher before and after school by tidying up and cleaning the classroom. One day, Ms. Edwards put her star pupil in charge of assisting a group of her peers with a reading activity.

Miss Gonzalez knew right then that she would one day become a teacher. From that day forward, she would spend whatever free time she had taught her stuffed animals the things she had learned at school each day.

 As her school career progressed, Ms. Gonzalez showed herself to be a confident, bright learner with a caring side. She would volunteer to tutor others in her favorite subject, Math. Her Math teachers saw that she had a gift for simplifying and explaining mathematical concepts. Being able to make Math accessible to struggling students is not something just anyone can do. This unique talent set Ms. Gonzalez aside from her peers.

 On confiding her Math teacher that she hoped to follow in his footsteps, he knew that he would make sure she gets a deserving opportunity. Ms. Gonzalez’s family could not afford to send her to college. However, with assistance and help of faculty at her school, she secured a scholarship to attend the University of Atlanta.

She would be the first member of her family to attend college, and they were very proud of her. Her time at college was well-spent, as she studied to become a high school Math teacher. She showed great promise as a mathematician. However, her passion lay with sharing Math with others and making it fun to learn.

 Ms. Gonzalez worked part-time to cover her additional study expenses. Despite the challenges of balancing her studies and work, she found the time to volunteer at a youth center where she helped students with their Math homework.

After graduating with honors in 2011, Ms. Gonzalez sought employment at Edgar F. Allen High, a school in an impoverished inner-city area of Chicago. Here she would spend the first years of her teaching career demystifying Math and making it something her students looked forward to learning.

She has realized, with experience that the biggest obstacle to learning Math is the mental block some students have when it comes to the subject. However, with her encouragement, several students who had been written off by previous Math teachers have distinguished themselves in the subject.

The school’s management supported Ms. Gonzalez’s efforts to start an Advanced Program Math course for her students. It is a much sought after privilege to attend the course, with more than 100 students competing for one of the 30 spots in the class. Outside the classroom, Ms. Gonzalez has been a passionate supporter of initiatives that encourage girls to seek careers in the Math and Science sectors.