



Ms. Kara Olivarria, M.Ed.

Certified core knowledge teacher, certified subject matter expert (STEM), and student advocate

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About Me

I am a curious and open-minded explorer. I have two sons, Ashton (six) and Jason (four). I have spent my life in New Jersey, Colorado, and Arizona, with the latter being my favorite.

I spent over a decade working in various scientific disciplines such as environmental chemistry, immunology, and quantum theory.

I am fond of all animals, and I have a dog and a cat. I aspire to build a giant play pen and adopt a pair of rabbits. I enjoy building models with my kids, reading, graphing & correlation, and braiding. It's a rare sighting to find me without a book or strands of embroidery floss in my hands!

Books

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot.

Spillover by David Quammen

Animals Make us Human by Temple Grandin

The Emperor of all Maladies by Siddhartha Mukherjee

Pi in the Sky by John Barrow

Biohazard by Ken Alibek

...This could get very long!

My Education

I have a Bachelor's degree in Biological Sciences from ASU, a Master of Education degree in Curriculum and Instruction, and an array of professional certificates.

As a lifelong learner, I am passionate about expanding my knowledge to fulfill my curiosities and enhance my expertise. I have completed a range of specialized coursework and certification programs, including Applied Behavior Analysis and Teaching Students with Emotional Disturbances. to deepen my understanding and support diverse learners effectively.

My Mission

Dear Students,
As a teacher, I'm not just interested in you simply knowing more; I want you to discover different ways to think. This means taking risks, digging deeper than the textbook, and engaging with your learning so that you see it as the dynamic and thrilling process that it is. I will make you feel as though you are exactly where you need to be in the moment, and that you have everything that you need.

Sincerely,
Ms. Olivarria



Where the Heart is

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