

My topic is 2. How has your education contributed to who you are today?

My education has played a huge role in my life. My education doesn't just consist of the obligation to show up to school everyday but my experiences in 4H and cheerleading as well. Without my past teachers, coaches, friends, etc, I wouldn't be who I am today. These experiences have led me on my path to continue my education and reach my goals for the future.

Many people think of school as a requirement that we are expected to show up everyday, do our work, and get good grades. When I think of school I think of getting to see my friends and classmates that I've had by my side since the second grade. Growing up in Washougal, my education hasn't just taught me how to read, write, multiply, or divide. It's taught me how to build lifelong relationships that I will forever cherish.

Although I've learned all the basics including English, Math, and History by going to school, education isn't just about textbooks but experiences as well. Without 4H, I wouldn't have been able to know how to trim sheep hooves or walk a steer. Growing up I was very blessed to be able to live on a property with parents who are up for a challenge. This challenge includes waking up early to feed the animals before school to chasing steer around the neighbors christmas tree farm. In 4H I've been able to learn from experiences most people aren't exposed to which has led to many achievements from getting Grand Champion Sheep Showman at the local fair to getting named Captain of the varsity cheer squad at Washougal High School.

I have grown up doing cheer since I was 7 years old and it is a lot harder than you would think. Cheer has taught me to be tough, outgoing, and a team player. This year my coach chose me to be the captain of our squad. I learned that to be a leader you have to set examples, be patient, and

be able to listen to others and their opinions. Cheering has given me some of the best bonds with my coaches and my teammates that I will never forget. Without them I wouldn't have become the diva I am today.

In conclusion, my education has shaped who I've become and is the reason I am pursuing my goals. Without school, 4H, and cheer, I wouldn't have learned to persevere, make lasting friendships, or know how to walk a steer. I am so lucky to take my education further at WSU and turn my dreams into reality.