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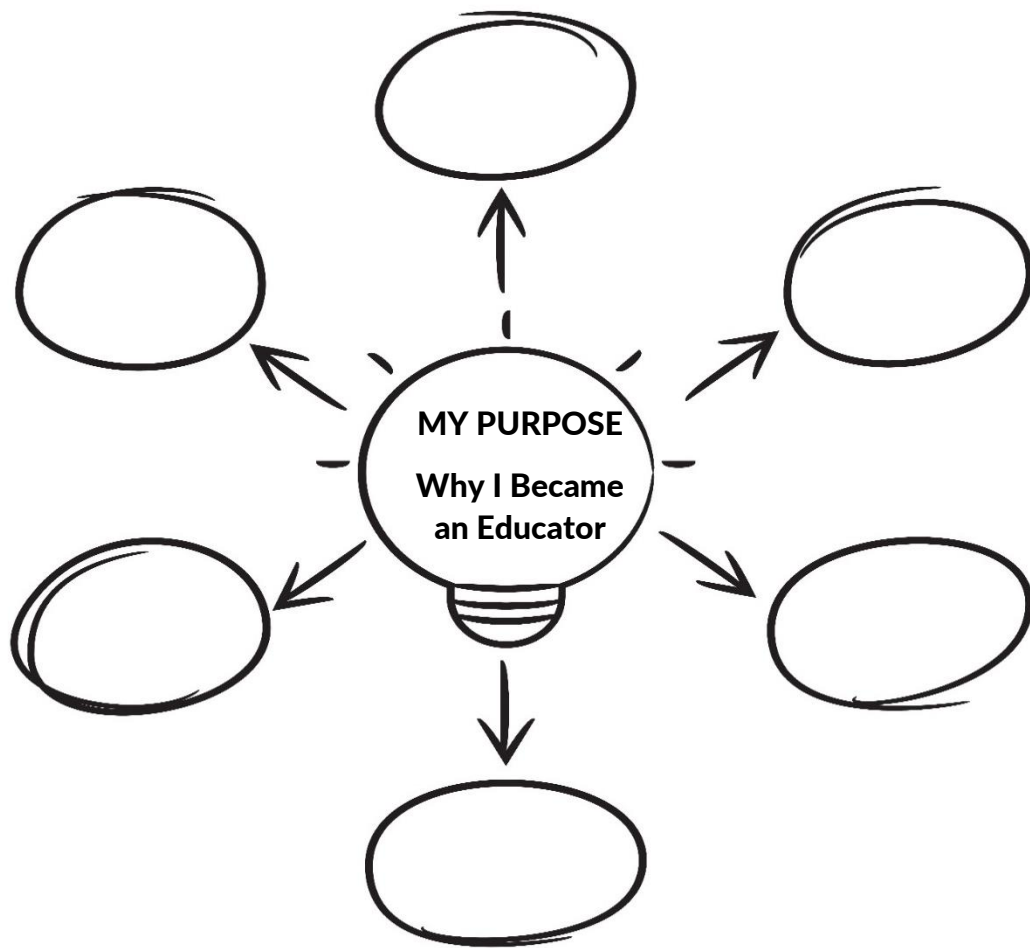
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## What is Your Purpose for Working with Students?

Research shows that when educators reflect on their purpose, they have the power to transform student lives. Take a moment to think about why you decided to become an educator. Was there an experience you had as a student that led you to this field? If so, was the experience positive or negative? Some people chose education as a career because of a teacher that saved their lives, others because they had a negative schooling experience. What was your reason for becoming an educator?



After brainstorming your purpose, write your *Why* in 2-3 sentences on the lines above. Then cut at dotted line, fold, and put in pocket or purse. You may find it in a few days, weeks, or even years later, and it will remind you of your purpose! Reminding ourselves and our colleagues of our purpose helps us become better prepared to teach and transform students' lives.