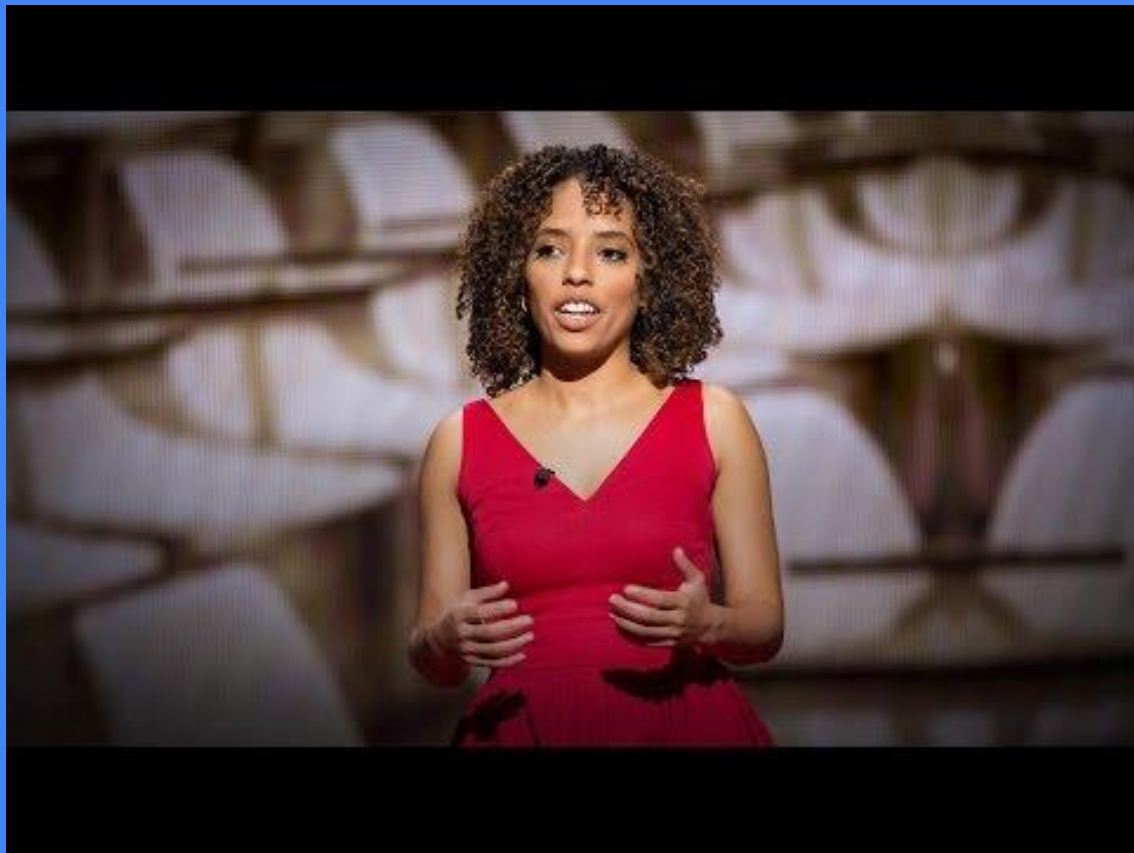


Dena Simmons



How students of colour confront imposter syndrome



On your own, consider the following:

Deanna Simmons speaks about African-American students specifically in her video. Thinking about your classroom, what other groups of students face similar challenges?

Find a partner and consider the following:

Are students asked to erase what makes them them? Are we “ass-king” them to change, as Deanna’s teacher asked her?

“There is emotional damage done when young people can’t be themselves, when they are forced to edit who they are in order to be acceptable. It’s a kind of violence.”

Team up with another pair and consider the following:

What are our _____ students (you fill in the blank) learning about themselves?

Form a group of eight and consider the following:

In what ways are we, as educators, addressing the needs of these students?

With the whole group, consider the following:

What else do we need to do to help our students make meaning in and of our classroom?

“Every child deserves an education that guarantees the safety to learn in the comfort of one’s own skin.”