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The history of mathematics in the development of knowledge for teaching. (La storia della matematica nello sviluppo della 'conoscenza per insegnare'.)

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Summary: In this paper we describe an activity performed in the Laboratory of Mathematics Education within the frame of a program for prospective teachers. We start by considering the problem of the existing prospective teachers' beliefs about the teaching of mathematics. These beliefs may act as a filter when facing the topics taught in the program. For this reason in the Laboratory we use history as a basic tool allowing to look at mathematical topics from a different point of view and to elaborate new beliefs.

Classification: B53 B54 A39 H39 C29 D49

Keywords: preservice teacher education; secondary school teachers; experience reports; beliefs; history of mathematics; algebraic equations