

LIFELONG LEARNING SKILLS - WHAT OUR STUDENTS NEED

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Learning doesn't stop in the four corners of the classroom, it doesn't stop after finishing a degree or even after acquiring any academic title; it's a lifetime process that we should learn from and live with.

As educators, we are playing a very essential part in the lives of our students for them to realize that learning doesn't stop in the four corners of our classroom nor after finishing a degree, but it's a lifetime journey that we should live with every single day of our lives.

For our students to be lifelong learners, there are essential lifelong learning skills that they should develop with our guidance. Here are some:

Creativity - it is a very essential skill for our students to develop because this will make them think outside the box or think beyond what is expected. Our students might produce innovations and solutions to the problems around us if this is fully developed.

Problem Solving - with the advancement happening in this drastically changing world, we should expect more and more problems that might arise. With the help of this skill, our students will be part of the solution rather than be part of the problem itself.

Critical Thinking - it is a necessary skill for our students to develop because this will make them think clearly and rationally about what to do and what to believe in the things happening around them. This skill is also vital in producing solutions to the problems in our modern society.

Leadership – this skill is essential even though not all students consider themselves as leaders. A leader isn't just concerned about managing things or people; what a true leader does is to inspire, to motivate, and to empower those people under his/her care. One way or another, our students will be handling people or responsibilities under their care in the near future so it is very important for them to develop this skill as early as possible.

Communication – it is one of the most important skill that our students should develop for the reason that communication is indispensable with learning. It is our way to understand what is being said and understand that message in order to respond accordingly, in like manner, we communicate to express what think and feel. In this way, the purpose of communication is fulfilled.

Collaboration – it is a fact of the matter that our students will most likely be working with group of people in most of their journey after their time in the formal educational system so it's necessary for them to develop this skill in order for them to work well with them. This includes building good relationships and work ethics that are necessary in producing satisfactory output or product.

Information Management – in this information age, a skill to manage well the information we are exposed to is very vital. That's why as early as now, we should let our students know the proper way on how they can handle any information they gather, to know if it is legitimate or not; is it harmful or not, especially in the cyber space which is a very wide world.

Adaptability – with the world-changing rapidly, the only constant thing that we should expect in this trend is change. With the advancement happening around us, this skill is very essential in order for our students to cope with the changes or challenges they might encounter in their journey.

Curiosity – it is a skill that should be develop in our students, even though it is present since early childhood days, for the reason that it is a necessary component in learning. This serves as a motivation to continue learning in life and to step out from our comfort zones as human beings.

Reflection – finally, this is a very important skill for our students to develop because this will serve as their guiding track on the progress they are making in their lives. This ability will make our students evaluate the decisions they make in life, whether it is beneficial for them or not.

There are lots of lifelong learning skills that our students need to develop aside from what is being mentioned above. As educators, we have a bigger responsibility to not only to teach the contents of our lessons but also to influence our students to be lifelong learners as well. Our students might not remember all the contents we have shared with them, but the life lessons and practical skills we were able to share with them will surely last a lifetime.

References:

<https://www.wabisabilearning.com/blog/10-beneficial-lifelong-learning-skills>