

ELEMENTARY TEACHERS: JACK OF ALL TRADES

by:

Roxanne F. Valencia

Teacher I, Roosevelt Elementary School

Elementary school teacher is in charged with teaching pupils in grades from one to six. They strive to impart essential knowledge and provide the groundwork for education in a range of subject areas, such as reading comprehension, writing, arithmetic, science, and other subjects. We are varied, and we are expected to stay present on a wide range of subject matters, pedagogical approaches, and cognitive research findings. Excellent patience, a talent for interacting with children, and a love of what they do are requirements for elementary school teachers. In addition to teaching pupils, elementary school teachers should give parents thorough feedback on their children so that they may better grasp the possibilities, challenges, and needs that their respective children will encounter in the future.

In my early years as a teacher, I worked with intermediate-level students. They already possess the fundamentals of writing, reading, and math. I only need to master the lesson I'll teach them. I'll read more about the subject to offer some insightful information with them. Depending on the vacancies and circumstances, we must teach a variety of subjects. Even though I'm not that good in the subject that the school head assigned to me, I eagerly accepted the challenge. My interest in this profession has widened because of my exploration of teaching several disciplines. For an elementary teacher, staying in our comfort zone is not suitable. Teaching has taught me how to love science. I also managed to pick up cooking, sewing, and crafting skills. I tried to understand the value of math in different disciplines. Despite my lack of artistic talent, I had some experience drawing and creating posters. Being an elementary school teacher is a challenging but meaningful job.

Recently, after I transferred school, our School Head assigned to the primary level. To be honest, I didn't try to teach very young learners. This was another new challenge to me. Learners in primary are just starting to learn the basics. The teacher needs to be aware of how much the development of the children depends on their drive, determination, and capacity to manage their work and cope with their emotions. I need to teach them how to read and write. Fortunately, our principal instructed me to take various reading development training. It was indeed a big help for me. The most satisfying part of being a primary teacher is seeing the students succeed in reading, writing, and basic math.

A person who is a "jack of all trades" is said to be able to perform a variety of tasks competently. An elementary teacher is required to have one, too. I applaud all teachers for accepting the challenge to leave their comfort zones to enhance the learners' development. Teaching is an incredibly difficult profession to pursue but one of the most meaningful.

References:

<https://www.state.nj.us/education/ece/rttt/k3/guide.pdf>