

REALLY, ICT MATTERS

by:

Roxanne F. Valencia

Teacher I, Roosevelt Elementary School

We were on a period of significant change, marking a pivotal point in our lives. These changes have been essentially technological. People are working from home if they can because of the pandemic, students are taking classes online, and teachers are connecting with students via various social media sites and learning platforms. The phenomenon causes the rise of ICT to quicken.

The educational sector meets the needs of the students in the midst of the pandemic with the aid of ICT. To reach out to learners and instruct them, we utilized digital platforms. Using the ICT tools, we produced video lessons, audio lessons and self-learning modules. Teachers stepped up to the challenge by using their creativity. To educate the students at home, several teachers created Facebook live videos and TikTok videos. ICT does serve as the bread's butter during this time.

Although I am completely aware of how beneficial ICT is in the classroom, it only became more fascinating to me later in my career as a teacher and helped me understand what it meant for education. Information can take many forms, including sound, video, text, and images. Over the past decades, especially with the introduction of the Internet, teachers have witnessed an exponential expansion in the variety of ICT being used for learning and teaching. What's amazing is not simply having more technology, but also having a wider variety of technology forms from which teachers can select in accordance with their own pedagogical preferences.

DepEd pushed us teachers to use ICT in our classrooms before the crisis. Numerous studies have demonstrated how well ICT works in the classroom. Information

and communication technology education can support the acquisition of new skills if planned and implemented effectively that will equip learners with the skills and abilities necessary for lifetime learning. ICT can promote active learning, collaborative, integrative, evaluative, creative and project-based learning. I have personally experienced the benefits of ICT integration in the classroom. Because ICT can provide meaningful teaching materials, learners are more engaged in the class. Learners in this generation are actively using technology, so when they can relate to the teaching strategies, they respond more easily.

Now that some schools have implemented face-to-face learning, ICT will be a lot more helpful if we put a lot of attention into planning on how to utilize it than in the past. We completely understand what ICT can accomplish for teaching and learning at this point. There will undoubtedly be more participation, which can foster the growth of 21st-century abilities like collaboration, complex thinking, and creative problem-solving.

References:

<https://linc.mit.edu/linc2013/proceedings/Session7/Session7Bonifacio.pdf>