

FACILITATING LEARNING IN GRADE 5 CLASSROOM

by:
Jocelyn V. Caparas
Teacher III

The teaching-learning process has greatly evolved in the 21st century learning era. The traditional blackboard and chalk and use of manila paper has become old fashioned (although still useable at unprecedented circumstances). The era of the new technology has played an important role inside the classroom. The classroom is now an arena for both the teacher and the students to conduct the learning process - an arena that transforms into a place of fruitful experiences that may lead to lifelong learnings.

In a Grade 5 classroom, the students are generally in the pre-teens age. Facilitating learning is both engaging and challenging. This age of learners tends to become more aware of social issues and their interests become wider in all different aspects. Some are more open to discussing even critical issues of society and are at a stage when they create their own set of ideals and beliefs. This part is critical as the teacher should be able to manage the discussions and forge the way of learning towards truth, facts, and values.

Openness and a non-judgmental tone and way of communication is essential in the conduct of classes in this age group. Because they are now being exposed to many issues and concerns not only with themselves but with the community or society, they are now able to see things in the bigger picture. This poses the interesting part of the learning process yet at the same time is the cause of sensitivity to facilitating learning. The teacher has a bigger responsibility to ensure that the facilitate learning is unbiased and based on facts while always keeping respect and trust in check especially during open discussions. However, productive classes become a more rewarding experience

especially when it becomes evident that the lessons are being put into practice by the students.

References:

Beadle, P. (2010). *How to Teach: The ultimate (and ultimately irreverent) look at what you should be doing in your classroom if you want to be the best teacher you can possibly be.* Crown House Publishing.

Dyck, James (2002), "The Built Environment's Effect on Learning: Applying Current Research", *Montessori Life*.

Rosenfeld, Lawrence (2009). "Setting the Stage for Learning". *Theory into Practice*.16(3): 167-173