TEACHING MATHEMATICS USING THE C-R-A MODEL

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One of the biggest challenges for a teacher is how to teach Mathematics the easy way for the students to fully understand the concept. We all know that students have different learning styles, so looking for the best strategy is very important.

Mathematics is very crucial in our everyday lives, so this learning area should not be neglected. Mathematics should be taught starting from the basics for the students to learn the concepts better.

Mathematics also develops critical thinking and logical reasoning, two crucial abilities for problem-solving. Critical thinking is a component of analytical thinking, whereas logical reasoning refers to the capacity for logical thought. So, for our students to become good problem-solvers, teachers should exert effort in teaching mathematics the best way we can, using the best strategies suited for the pupils.

There are several ways that have been created to help pupils get a conceptual knowledge of mathematics, and after teaching mathematics for a long time, I find the C-R-A Model to be one of the best strategies. The Concrete-Representational-Abstract model involves teaching the pupils concrete objects first, followed by visual or picture representations, and then abstract. This helps students understand mathematical concepts.

Mathematical concepts are mental creations that are abstract. External representations must be used to assist pupils understand these ideas in a more tangible way. These outward representations take the role of abstract, mental ideas and embody the concepts' main features.

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The concepts of simply verbalizing the laws and principles of mathematics and displaying instances and solutions on the chalk board have evolved. Overreliance on the chalk-and-talk approach has resulted in subpar performance and bad results. This leads to students not liking the subject and having a negative attitude toward classroom mathematics.

References:

https://shelleygrayteaching.com/concrete-representational-abstract-model/https://thirdspacelearning.com/us/blog/concrete-representational-abstract-math-cpa/#:~:text=The%20Concrete%20Representational%20Abstract%20(CRA)%20approach%20is%20a%20system%20of,%2C%20fraction%20bars%2C%20etc).

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