

## CURATING A LEARNING ENVIRONMENT FROM A TEACHER'S PERSPECTIVE

*by:*

**Maria Cristina B. Belino**

*Teacher III Pinulot Elementary School*

Learning environments from a teacher's perspective should be understood as an educational approach that only gives the most adaptive learning atmosphere. Every learning environment is ideal, but from a teacher's perspective, it is their main responsibility to guide the students, devise instructional materials and strategies accordingly, and make every curriculum content and academic achievement innovative that shall aid students as they go along the learning phase. In short, to create an appropriate and effective learning environment.

In line with this, such a learning environment emphasizes what the teachers can also build: the importance of transferring learning to new or future situations—for students to gain the ability to use knowledge or skill in situations beyond the ones in which they are acquired. I also believe that teachers have the power to encourage students in exhausting learning resources and materials. I see teachers as MKOs (More Knowledgeable others). A learning environment can only be effective if there is also a mutual teacher-student interactive culture where management practices are implemented. Lastly, a learning environment from a teacher's perspective requires more stability and concentration on decision-making concerning students and the classroom.

If I were to add something to the learning environment, it would be about the students' engagement. Content is already okay, but the concern relies on how the students take that content into account; what forms of support can be given in a learning environment for the students? Significantly, learning environments can be driven by the personal accounts and beliefs of a teacher, and they have greater control over what is deemed necessary in

learning. Still, I also wish to add the control students can have over learning resources and the use of technology. Developing ethical behavior is also a great factor to be considered in creating an effective learning environment because if problems or misbehavior occur, teachers handle it promptly to keep it from continuing. In a learning environment where such principles are implemented, students must also feel that their contributions are valued and value the diversity within the classroom setting as well.

I don't think the whole learning environment overly complicates the teaching process. I think of each learning environment as a classroom that has a variety of skills, backgrounds, languages, and inclinations to cooperate. And as for the teachers, they must be prepared to create, implement, and maintain an environment in which learning is at the center.

As cited in Strong's article (2013), "As William Butler Yeats once said, Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire." In a teaching process, it is not about the knowledge

a teacher can input to a student so they pass the course, but, teachers involve the students in, as I have mentioned above, transferring learning to new or future situations and becoming open to risks. The learning environment and teaching process overlap each other, but the two being interconnected help a student produces a lifelong interest that completes them as part of society.

### *References:*

Strong, R. (2013, October 15). 'Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire': It's an inspiring quote, but did WB Yeats say it? The Irish Times. Retrieved from <https://www.irishtimes.com/news/education/education-is-not-the-filling-of-a-pail-but-the-lighting-of-a-fire-it-s-an-inspiring-quote-but-did-wb-yeats-say-it-1.1560192>