

## 21ST CENTURY LEARNING IS A HOLISTIC PROCESS

*by:*

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The illiterate of the 21st Century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn and relearn.” Alvin Toffler

In a world driven by innovation, knowledge, and diversity, it is vital to never stop learning and discovering new things. Humans have the ability to adapt to various changes that occur in their lives, be it natural or scientific. In line with this, as teachers, we are expected to act accordingly; every aspect of our education system – pre K-12, postsecondary and adult education, after-school and youth development, workforce development and training, and teacher preparation programs – must be aligned to prepare citizens with the 21st-century skills they need to compete.

21st-century skills involve various aspects such as critical thinking, citizenship, a growth mindset, creativity, collaboration, and communication. Being able to adapt should be a vital characteristic. 21st-century skills are a collection of abilities and competencies that students need to develop to succeed in work and life in the 21st century.

According to Wagner (2008), the rapid change and development in the 21st century make it necessary for individuals to equip themselves with certain competencies and skills. These skills, called the 21st-century skills, are the combination of knowledge, skill, literacy, and expertise necessary for individuals to be successful in work and daily life. Preparing individuals for life and equipping them with age-appropriate knowledge and skills are among the responsibilities of education. An education system is successful to

the extent that it can equip its students with the knowledge and skills required in the 21st century.

Moreover, Hallett, T.L., and Faria G. (2006) point out that books are not the only way libraries can extend available information to the public; other means such as pictures, filmstrips, slides, recordings, etc., should be found to supplement other reference book resources and substitute for books when they are not available on a particular topic.

Finally, as teachers, it is essential for us to be able to create and produce critical thinkers through holistic learning experiences that we provide to our students. The different modernizations have given rise to various teaching methods that we can apply in the teaching and learning process. Thus, if we aim to create a globally competitive learner, we ourselves should be globally competitive as well.

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