

PICK A BOOK!

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Reading seemed uninteresting for children these days. They focused more on gadgets browsing the net. It would be great if they googled for sensible information; unfortunately, they surfed for stuff like games, gossip, scandals, and the like. At a young age, they already have social media accounts! Imagine how to teach them honesty when getting such an account already made them lie.

Nevertheless, how could we lessen such exposure to gadgets when almost all lessons also required gadgets during the time of the pandemic? We cannot just ask them to stop now. A simple introduction to the internet hooked them already. Therefore, we have to find a way to limit them in using those. Although some parents try to set screen time for their children, several children still cannot stop themselves from playing with their gadgets. Some even got angry when reprimanded.

However, we should not expect children to stop thinking that gadgets are the only means for them to enjoy and have fun if we cannot provide them with another option. As a teacher, interactive games that can make them practice their psychomotor were of great help, especially to those in primary grades. But it will take a lot of patience to monitor those activities specifically if you have big class sizes. Good thing DepEd also wanted us to focus on the reading skills of the learners; hence, we can conduct reading activities. Regrettably, only a few are fond of reading books. For what reason? If you ask them, you will discover that most households do not have any reading material. Thus, what do you expect? Since we are their teachers, let us take this opportunity to expose them to books and various reading materials.

At first, you will notice that they are not interested. But when you make it a routine, they will start to personally like it. We also must invest to provide reading texts that can capture their attention like premium paperbacks with glossy pages and colorful illustrations. There were some paperbacks also with flips and flaps like “Who’s Asleep?” written and illustrated by Emily Bolam, peek-through holes, and fold-outs which can make reading more interactive.

I cannot help but remember toddlers who were so fond of peek-a-boo books. They loved the surprise each page offers, and I believe it is still effective even for those in early grades. I noticed that to my learners.

To conclude, we just must pick books for our learners which offer interesting content and illustrations and boo! We will see them reading without being told to.

References:

Bolam, Emily. (2014). Who’s Asleep? North Parade Publishing Ltd.