

## ENHANCING GRADE 4 EDUCATION THRU THE MATATAG CURRICULUM

*by:*

**ALMIRA A. PAGUIO**

*Teacher I, Minanga Elementary School*

Since 2012, the Department of Education has been implementing the K to 12 Basic Education Curriculum which emphasizes the development of key competencies, such as critical thinking, problem-solving, and communication skills. The MATATAG Curriculum is a subset of the K to 12 curriculum. The Department of Education has introduced the MATATAG Curriculum, a comprehensive framework aimed at improving the education of grade 4 students. The term "Matatag" is a Filipino word that means "resilient" or "strong," reflecting the curriculum's focus on building students' resilience and ability to adapt to challenges (Bureau of Educational Publications, 2019). The curriculum aims to promote critical thinking, problem-solving skills, and creativity among learners.

The MATATAG Curriculum is built around four key features: learning areas, learning strands, learning standards, and learning competencies. The learning areas include English, Filipino, mathematics, science, and social studies. The learning strands are the subtopics within each learning area, while the learning standards define the expected outcomes for each learning strand. The learning competencies are the skills and attitudes that students should develop in each learning area (DepEd, 2020).

The MATATAG Curriculum is organized into three main components: cognitive, affective, and psychomotor domains. The cognitive domain focuses on knowledge acquisition and comprehension, while the affective domain emphasizes social and emotional development. The psychomotor domain involves hands-on activities and practical skills.

For Grade 4 teachers, the MATATAG Curriculum provides a framework for planning and delivering lessons that cater to the diverse needs of their students. The curriculum emphasizes student-centered learning, encouraging teachers to create engaging and interactive lessons that promote student participation and collaboration. In addition, the curriculum requires teachers to assess student learning outcomes regularly, using various assessment tools and strategies. Thus, unpacking of learning competencies is a critical skill that grade 4 teachers should possess in order to facilitate learning. Here, mastery of learning competencies can be provided for the pupils because in each unpacked learning competency, the pupils can maximize the knowledge and skills inculcated in the lesson.

#### *References:*

Bureau of Educational Publications. (2019). Matatag Curriculum Framework: Grade 4. Manila: Department of Education.

DepEd. (2013). K to 12 Basic Education Curriculum. Manila: Department of Education.

DepEd. (2020). Matatag Curriculum Guide: Grade 4. Manila: Department of Education.