MEANINFUL LEARNING THROUGH HANDS-ON TEACHING STRATEGIES

by:
Wilmond M. Isip
Teacher I, Bangal Elementary School

Hands-on teaching is a form of teaching strategy wherein the learners are learning by doing. They learn to solve problems in their own, they discover learning in their own. Some of the teaching strategies associated with this are learning by doing, experiential and discovery learning and constructivism. On the other hand, concrete learning is a form of learning wherein learners learn best with hands-on methods and show the most success when doing it themselves, being involved with their learning process and "doing" rather than "watching." Therefore, Hands-on teaching for concrete learning basically means a learner learns best through learning by doing and discovery learning.

In the traditional way of teaching process, we commonly use chalkboard for discussion, paper and pencil test for assessment and evaluation of our learner's outcome, listening and book-reading activities. On the other hand, practicing hands-on activities in our classroom includes manipulative, or realistic concrete representations, in the activity that helps our learners to construct the concept and explain the concept with the manipulative or concrete representation in a meaningful way wherein their prior knowledge becomes broader because of the new learnings that they gained through experiential. And This changes the concept from "what and who" of teaching into "how and why." Since we are now part of being 21st century teachers, we should more focus on engaging hands-on activities for concrete learning. This will be effective most during early stage of learning because it is the foundation of their learning. But hands-on is not just an activity nor a process, it is a strategy of teaching-learning process with meaningful representations. Most learners find learning boring. In order to come up with this

problem, we as teachers must consider first the learner's needs and interest before applying hands-on activities to catch their attention. And because of this technique, it provides more advantages to our learners, such as being a more engaging method of learning new material that will improve their retention, providing opportunities for problem-solving and critical thinking practice, and frequently resulting in physical creation, this type of teaching appears to be effective in the teaching and learning process.

With this, it clearly shows us that a teacher should always be knowledgeable to able to assess students' needs and interests, and capable to use a variety of teaching and learning strategies to address this issue. Think creatively and outside the box. Are you an iconic, symbolic, or enactive teacher? Enhancing our teaching methods and ourselves is something we can do at any time. When pupils learn and apply what they have learned, We teachers are satisfied, successful, and effective. This can be achieved by giving our learners a real-world experience, utilizing concrete and manipulative exercises, and letting them build and discover their own learning.

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