

BEYOND THE PAGES: WHY STUDENTS MUST READ

by:

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A vital component of students' intellectual and psychological growth is reading. It's a lifelong skill that fosters communication, creativity, and critical thinking, not just a school necessity. For students who are receptive to new concepts, civilizations, and ideologies, reading opens up new avenues for thought and comprehension. According to Lacuata (2019), reading has a favourable impact on Filipino students' wellbeing and personal development. The results showed that reading promotes empathy, cultural knowledge, and social awareness in addition to improving vocabulary and comprehension. It gives students a more comprehensive view of the world and improves their sensitivity and comprehension of various cultures and viewpoints.

One fundamental benefit of reading is the improvement of language skills. Students who regularly read can expand their vocabulary, enhance their grammar, and develop better comprehension. These abilities have a direct impact on improved performance in verbal and written communication. Additionally, reading improves concentration, which aids students in handling challenges in variety of areas. The development of reading habits gives people the knowledge and abilities they need to succeed in their future undertakings. (Ali et.al, 2023)

Moreover, reading develops empathy and character in addition to academic skills. Students develop social awareness when they make connections between what they read and various circumstances and feelings. Students who read are better equipped to think creatively and imaginatively and to overcome obstacles in the actual world.

However, many students are more drawn to social media and electronics than to literature because of digital distractions. According to Jahan et al. (2021), the majority of students read books for more than eight hours prior to the pandemic, but during COVID-19, they only read for one to two hours. What's even more concerning is that they spend six to seven hours online using electronic devices, with the remaining four hours of their day being spent on activities like Facebook, YouTube, gaming, and other activities. This new issue emphasizes how important it is for families and schools to encourage a love of reading. This problem can be solved by establishing reading programs, granting library access, and promoting regular reading habits.

In conclusion, reading is not only the cornerstone of education but also a means of achieving success in life and personal development. It provides students with essential knowledge and values for them to thrive in the future. Therefore, one of the most crucial duties of educators, parents, and the community is to foster a love of reading in their students.

The Official Website of DepED Division of Bataan

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