

THEY'RE JUST PUPPIES

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Do you love puppies? Aren't they cute and cuddle? Nonetheless, everything has its flaws. No matter how adorable they are, it is certain that they are difficult to discipline at times. They are commonly naughty and stubborn.

With that, these puppies reminded me of my learners. They were adorable but frustrating after a minute. But they were still cute... of course, in my eyes.

In the story Oi Puppies!, the cat orders the puppies to sit, but they won't sit.

"Sit, Milo!" said the cat.

"He won't sit," said the dog.

"Sit, Tiddle!" said the frog.

The dog answered, "She doesn't want to sit either."

"Why won't they sit?" asked the cat.

"Because they're puppies," said the dog. "Puppies are far too busy being puppies to sit."

These lines from the story reminded me of our everyday struggle with our learners: a never-ending utterance of restrictions and disciplinary words. According to studies, we just have to repeat the words if we want to remember them, but how come these children never remember any of our reminders?

So frustrating and tiring, isn't it? Before, I thought I was just ineffective in guiding them, but years had passed and I finally learned that same with the story I read, they were just kids and they're too busy being one. They were too young to feel bothered.

Thus, instead of stressing yourself too much by making them stay and sit in one place, calm yourself down. Try to play along with them. Get yourself familiar with their likes and dislikes. Befriend them. As long as these puppies do not bite anyone... oops, these learners, I mean, let us not deprive them the chance to explore and enjoy. Allow them to be joyful, be themselves, and be children.

References:

Gray, Kes and Gray, Claire, and Field, Jim. (2016). Oi Puppies! Hodder Children's Books.