

A SECOND CHANCE TO SHINE

by:

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Learning has never been the same for every child. Some pupils quickly understand a lesson, while others need more time and guidance before they can move forward. I have seen how difficult it can be for a learner who wants to succeed but struggles to keep up with the class. There were moments when reading a simple passage or solving a basic problem seemed too challenging. Still, every child deserves the chance to learn without feeling left behind.

The ARAL Program became that opportunity for one pupil who needed extra support. At first, the learner was shy, unsure, and hesitant to answer even the easiest questions. With regular practice, patient guidance, and constant encouragement, small improvements began to show each day. Words that were once difficult to read became familiar, and numbers slowly started to make sense. Those little victories gave the pupil enough confidence to believe that learning was possible.

As the sessions continued, the changes became more noticeable inside the classroom. The pupil began raising a hand to participate and completed activities with greater confidence than before. Every correct answer brought a smile that reflected genuine pride and determination. It was not only the academic performance that improved but also the learner's attitude toward school. Sometimes, all it takes is one person who believes that a child can still do better.

The experience reminded me that education is not about who learns the fastest but about making sure no learner is forgotten. Programs like ARAL prove that every pupil can improve when given enough time, patience, and support. A struggling learner today

can become a confident and independent learner tomorrow. Success is not always measured by how quickly a child reaches the goal but by the courage to keep trying despite the challenges. Indeed, every second chance can become the beginning of a brighter tomorrow.

References:

Department of Education. Academic Recovery and Accessible Learning (ARAL) Program, Republic Act No. 12028.

Department of Education. MATATAG Agenda: Making the Curriculum Relevant to Produce Job-ready, Active and Responsible Citizens.