Education is society’s main avenue for the development of basic learnings (writing, reading, speaking, counting, good moral and right conducts). Children went to schools not only for a formal education but also to help themselves discover their potentials and talents and develop personality well.

Promoting the growth and development of learners require the use of varied instructional methods and approaches. Contemporary teaching methods and approaches are those used in the most today’s modern school.

Cooperative learning may be labeled contemporary teaching method which recommended by a number of educators to increase teaching effectiveness. It set instructional methods in which pupils’ work in small mixed ability working groups. It compasses a wide variety of strategies to promote learning through peer cooperation and communication. It implies helpfulness of every member to share their ideas and resources and plan cooperatively what and how to study. It is also an educational approach which aims to organize classroom activities into academic and social learning.

According to John Dewey, one of the famous proponents, progressive educators and philosophers encourage the learners to be involved in cooperative groups and view the teacher as facilitator and research person. Focus on the child as the learner, rather than someone who is just getting information as a form of learning.

Researchers confirm the benefits derived from cooperative learning. It promotes active learning, motivated to do more, and achieve higher degree of performance. Cooperative learning leads the
improvement in self-esteem and social skills. Through cooperative learning it bonds communication interaction, the sharing ideas, listening and decision-making.

The learners may cope their attention and interest if they bond with the peers. They learned to share their ideas, feedback or brainstorming regarding the specific topic. Social interaction boost social success that lead through cooperative learning and academic success begins with cooperative learning.

References:

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