BETTER WAYS TO DEVELOP THE CHILD’S READING SKILL

by:
Jessica T. Angeles
Teacher II, Kabalutan Elementary School

One of the major problems of teachers today is the child’s reading competency. Since a lot of pupils need kind assistance in reading, the teachers have to employ appropriate ways to resolve the situation. It seems that reading has not so much positive impression and impact to the young learners. To make it much enjoyable and at the same time educational, the teachers have to add innovative strategies in developing the reading skill of each young learner.

Use appropriate reading materials. - As a teacher, it is important that you present reading materials that are not only appropriate to the grade level but also attractive to the perception of the learners. For instance, as recently introduced, the big books are very relevant and suitable for the kids of the present generation. These big books are simplified yet very interesting and fun to read. Thus, the teacher has to choose the right reading materials for the school learners.

Tell the value of reading. - After the selection of the kind of reading materials suited to the pupils or students, the teacher has to persuade and stimulate the schoolchildren to read. Having told the advantages and benefits that reading may bring would make the learner aware on the effects of reading and would inspire him/her to embark in this activity. The child, therefore, at this stage is easily motivated and developed. It is the right time that teachers should take this timely opportunity to lead the child in developing his/her reading skill.

Lead to simple way. - After giving the benefits that reading may bring, the teacher then should guide the child in the discovery of words and in understanding the texts. The best way for a child to learn easily is to read in portion that is to simplify the reading activity. The teacher may ask the child to deal with a part of the selection first and have it understood before going to another part. By means of this, the child will have a better understanding of each part of the selection. It is reading the simple text before going to the complex ones.
Ask to discover the theme of the selection. To go deeper in dealing with the reading activity, the teacher has to instruct the learners to discover or trace the gist or theme of the reading selection. Having learned the theme will be contributory in better understanding the reading text. In this way, further understanding and critical thinking of the learner are developed even at a young age. Being able to perceive the substance of the selection is indeed favorable to the reader.

Have the learners portray roles out of the reading selection. By creatively instructing the school learners to act out what they read in the form of role play, newscast, debate and other presentations for sure they will be able to develop a better understanding of the texts given in books and other reading materials, thus developing their reading skills. This is also an effective way for the selections to linger in the minds of the students for a long time.

Develop love for reading. The teacher has to develop within the child the love and passion for reading. This will be useful in developing the reading skill of each child. If they enjoy and love what they are doing then further learning may be achieved.

Tell the students to make reading a habit. If the learners include reading as one of their regular activities not only in school but also at home, their reading skills may be enhanced and intensified. The learners may have reading as a habit. They may do it every day for it will give them more benefits most especially in the acquisition of knowledge.

These are the possible ways on how a teacher may develop the reading skill of each learner despite the many enticing things that technology offers.

References:

