CONGESTED

by:

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“The major problem is merely congestion. It’s because of a lack of capacity.”
(Hanbali, https://www.quotehd.com/quotes/)

An elephant that is forced to be placed inside a fridge. This the kind of schooling Grade 1 pupils experience under the K to 12 Program. Under the new curriculum, these young school children will have more learning areas to study everyday. They have to study seven subjects such as Filipino, English, Mathematics, Mother Tongue, MAPEH, Araling Panlipunan and Edukasyon sa Pagpapakatao for less time each day. Some of the skills they need to master may be light but it will be very difficult for these young minds to focus learning lots competencies. The big shift from play-based learning in kindergarten to taking up multiple learning areas in grade 1 can also be accounted to this. Another factor is the reading level of the grade 1 pupils. They have books yet they can’t completely read sentences nor comprehend. This makes hard for them to answer written activities or assessments. Consequently, the teacher needs to attend each pupil to explain what to do.

Grade 1 is one of the critical stages of schooling because the foundation of concepts and skills are started to be built. In this grade level, the learners construct the significant schema which will be the pre-requisite experience for them to easily accommodate and assimilate new learning experiences of the next level of schooling. In addition to, the formation of values and routines are developed at this phase which will make these learners manageable while engaging in different learning activities. In order to achieve these two things, the teaching-learning process will require more time.
Maybe it is the right time to revise the content of the curriculum for grade 1 or get back to the old ways - teaching fewer subjects. It may be stressful just as some educators say because the pupils take the subjects for longer time but surely pupils can concentrate learning attainable competencies and building stronger foundation of the basics.

References:

https://www.quotehd.com/quotes/dr-rashad.-hanbali-quote/the-major-problem-is-congestion-because-of-a-lack