COOPERATIVE LEARNING: MORE THAN JUST WORKING IN GROUPS
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Cooperative learning is an instructional method which small group of pupils learn and then make presentations to other groups of pupils. Sometimes, competition serves as the challenge for those small group of pupils. A cooperative learning environment is a situation in which learners with one common goal in their mind to devote and achieve one common learning goal indoor and outdoor through direct instruction from the teacher. In another word, a small dedicated group of pupils learn together and take advantages of each other’s expertise to achieve a common learning goal.

Learners are encouraged to be at the center of learning and learn together. Learners will not enjoy learning if it happens in isolation and in an individual. One way to improve pupils’ knowledge and self-esteem is the creativeness of the teachers in the delivery of the lessons. One of the successful teaching strategies in which the small team of the pupils with different levels of ability, is the use of learning activities to improve their understanding and knowledge and promote learning in all areas. Working in groups produces much higher achievement in pupils, more positive relationships among pupils and promotes healthier psychological adjustment rather than competitive or individual work and activities.

The focus of using this strategy is that cooperative goal structures are characterized by pupils working together to accomplish shared goals. What is
beneficial for the pupils in the group is beneficial for each member and vice versa. Because pupils in cooperative groups may obtain the desired goal such as high grade or feeling of satisfaction for a job well done, this proves true when other pupils in the group also achieved the same reward.

The focus of using this strategy is that cooperative learning, everyone should cooperate with its member’s for the group to achieve their common goal. In human societies and communities, the individuals who are most likely to survive are those who are best enabled to work with their group.

REFERENCES: