DO IT YOURSELF TEACHING AIDS

by:
Ghia Crizaldo Ureta
Teacher-III Alasasin Elementary School

Teaching in a more fun and interactive way will be made easy with teaching aids on the go. Teaching aid is anything that can be used to help, reinforce or supplement the learning process. It can be recycled materials, purchased, or created solely for the purpose. One must consider the age of learners and the learning need to be addressed. Teaching aids are important to support lessons, assist learning, explain concepts and illustrate meanings, facilitates learning facilitators work thru conversation and dialogues, arouse interest in the current topic, and help to develop the seven developmental domains of the child.

Now that the learning process took place in the learners’ respective homes, parents often neglect the benefit of having teaching aids as an essential tool to make learning as fun, interactive, and enjoyable as possible. Indulging in Do-It-Yourself or DIY items, teaching aids can also be DIY for parents. The big question is how to start?

Like that the usual DIY, parents need to know the main criteria before creating a DIY teaching aid.

1. Accessibility

Teaching aid must be effective and accessible to meet its purpose. These must be made available anytime the learner need to use it or play with it.

2. Interactivity
Making teaching aids effective is also hooking the learner to interact with the material/s. The more interaction given by the learner towards the materials the greater is the percentage of learning outcome.

3. Practicality

Now that we are facing the pandemic, teaching aids will be of great help to introduce learners to a real-life experience towards knowledge and skills aligned to the lesson. It is also to this aspect that parents are encouraged to be more resourceful, innovative, and creative. Household materials offer a wide range of opportunities for learning progress.

4. Usability

In creating a teaching aid, the concept must be demonstrated to the output. Considering the learning outcome is likewise considering the learning process. To be able to mee both, the teaching aid/material must be usable at all times. It must deliver its purpose.

Below are some suggestions we can make out of materials we have at home.

Puppets – Puppets are very attractive and interesting for a 5-year old child. A parent can use it during dialogues, storytelling, and character impersonation. Puppets can be created from old socks, used clothes, paper bags, or even magazine pictures. Twigs and leaves can be used in creating a puppet. Puppets will help the child develop her socio-emotional skills, receptive and expressive skills, and cognitive skills during dialogues, storytelling, and even during meeting/circle time. The child will also develop her psychomotor and fine motor skills during the creation of puppets.

Window Pockets – Using cardboards, plain transparent plastics, and tapes, this window pocket is usable in many ways. This can hold flashcards, a tool for random addition subtraction games, and even for spelling games. Window pockets are the same as pocket charts used in a classroom set-up, the only difference among the two is the materials used.
With is teaching aid, we can target seven developmental domains with the specific skill to be developed.

Matching caps. Using an empty bottle head part and its cap, parents can make a letter matching game or a number-picture matching game fun and exciting. This activity will task the learner to match, close the cap to its bottle head with the same letter, number or picture depending on what is written below the cup and bottle head. The twisting or cap is a fine motor skill development. The matching part of the game will focus on the development skill of the child.

Flip charts/cards. This teaching material is quite common for reading and mathematical activities. To DIY the said material, a parent will only need cardboard, a pen and a binding tool such as glue, metal rings, thread, or any materials around that will hold the pieces together.

DIY needs time, passion, and commitment. It also needs talent, an innovative and creative mind. With effort and heart added to it, a teaching aid made out of love is worth for a child who is willing to learn and grow.

References:


https://buggyandbuddy.com/30-diy-toys-and-resources-to-make-for-your-classroom/
https://www.pinterest.ph/LSSchachter/diy-learning-tools/
https://www.pinterest.ph/jvanalst/diy-teaching-ideas/
https://recyclenation.com/2015/08/5-diy-school-materials-for-educators/
https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/teaching-aids-resources-best-learning-ms-jemisudhakar