GAME BOARDS AS EFFECTIVE STRATEGY IN TEACHING
FOUR OPERATIONS IN MATHEMATICS

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According to Merriam-Webster dictionary, Mathematics is a subject that deals with the operations, measurement, generalizations and transformation. It is very interesting but difficult one which is needed in all walks of life. In school, it should be made meaningful by allowing the learners to explore Mathematics. The learners should be taught in Mathematical skills possibly in the most interesting way, though varied strategies in teaching and learning situations where they could gain mastery of the skills, which is the mathematical skills learn could be of valuable meaning and have ready application in one’s life.

Numeracy skills have been the object of the present mathematics in a primary level. This skill is the very foundation needed for the development of man in the different field of occupations. Based on the study of Evangeline A Bautista, The role of mathematics in the present scientific age is significant to education. The school makes mathematics teaching and learning more responsive to the needs and demand of ever changing society.

Based on our recent curriculum 2016 (K-12) stated that “The learner must demonstrates understanding and appreciation of key concepts and principles of mathematics as applied, using appropriate technology, in problem solving, critical thinking, communicating, reasoning, making connections, representations, and decisions in real life.”

Every year, we conducted Project All Numerates (PROJECT AN), a program of the Department of Education (Dep Ed) which aims to make every Filipino a numerate.
DepEd Region III, together with primary and secondary schools are implementing zero non-numerates in their respective schools. Thru this program, schools created different strategic intervention materials assuring that there will be zero non-numerates before the end of the school year. It begins with the administration of a pretest on the second month of the school year. The results are analyzed and various strategies are used to fix the least mastered skills. Post-test is administered during February to determine the outcome of the interventions. But even it is only 4 Fundamentals Operations, which addition and subtraction was already given emphasis on grades 1 and 2 (2 F’s), still the learners got low scores...so what is the problem..... and that is why we need to find out what is the best way we can help our pupils.

Teacher uses different strategies in teaching Mathematics to have a meaningful learning outcomes. But, what is the best technique or strategy that we can use to them to learn the easy way. One of the strategies that can be utilized is using games. As we all know, the nature of a primary pupil is playful, we can use game board as intervention materials in teaching Mathematics. Games provide the opportunity to make the lesson interesting and encourage pupils to remember the concept. We, as a teacher can use a contextualized board games like snake and ladders, 4 in a row, jigsaw puzzle, and memory game. It is important to have a close supervision in using this kind of strategy to the pupils so that the results will be enough to determine the improvement of pupil’s performance.

References:


(https://merriam-webster.com/dictionary/Mathematics)

(http://education.cu-portland.edu/blog/curriculum-instruction/basic-math-teaching-strategies/)