HELPFUL GUIDELINES FOR NEW MATHEMATICS TEACHERS

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Mathematics in itself is already a dreaded subjects for many students, thus teaching it can be stressful in itself even if the teacher has not even met his/her. Especially for new mathematics teachers, teaching the subject can be both challenging and frightful.

There are helpful guidelines, however, that can benefit math teachers especially the novice. The first is to establish the discipline inside the classroom from the beginning. This does not mean that students become fearful of the subject and the teacher but that rules are set straight that could help display appropriate behaviour in the classroom.

Routine and structure are good but in teaching mathematics, to help improve skills, varied activities that students can enjoy are a must. Encourage active participation and interaction by providing board work and group activities. Involve everyone in the discussion and lessen teacher-directed lessons instead, focus more on problem solving approach methods where students give more insights and ideas.

Critical thinking is more important than correct answers. The Allow students to explore on how problems are solved and be encouraging. Be flexible. While mathematics can be rigid, it is more important that students learn the how of it more than anything else. This will help appreciate it more and see its practical uses.

In giving tests, be specific on what you will be giving them. This will provide clear guidance for them on what to study. This is especially helpful to students who have poor study habits. This way, you do not only help them with the subject itself but you also help them establish study skills they need and they can use even with their other subjects.

The beginning of the school year is the time when students are most excited and motivated. Front loading can mean miracles when you introduce interesting topics new to them instead of reviewing past lessons they have learned in the previous school year.
As a new mathematics teacher, you will encounter a lot as you go along. These helpful tips can be useful for you in your journey. The challenges will come but being equipped and prepared can get you through. Who knows, you might be the one who can transform the dread for mathematics to the love of it among your students.

References:

