HELPING SLOW LEARNERS TO EXCEL

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Teachers as providers of knowledge play the most important role in pupils’ learning. They are the ones who render instructions on a daily basis. If they are effective, they can assure impact on children’s lives. However, pupils vary as regards to their abilities. There are fast learners, average, and unfortunately, there are slow learners.

As generated from School Psychologist Files, a “slow learner” is not a diagnostic category. It is a term that most people used to describe a pupil who has the ability to learn necessary academic skills but at rate below the average of the same age peers. They need more time, more resources and even more repetition from their teachers to grasp new concepts.

As a teacher-adviser who is designated to handle the last section in the fifth grade, I realized that handling slow learners is challenging. Since homogeneous group are practiced in the school I am affiliated with, most of my pupils perform low in academics. However, I believe this is calls for dedication and passion on my part.

For teachers, they can help learners who are slow to excel by having the determination to walk extra miles. Since these pupils need more time and effort to grasp certain concepts and ideas, they should be willing to render what it takes for the development of the children. Handling these kids with calmness also contribute to the success of the remedial instruction and reading intervention.

For parents, they should bear in mind that there must be a good teacher-parent partnership towards improving their child’s performance. During quarterly meetings,
there should be also a parent-teacher conference to talk about the child’s development in school. Having follow-ups at home is also a necessity considering that slow learners need more time and practice to master a certain skill.

Providing a quiet study area in the classroom is also a good idea. Establishing reading corners wherein after class, a tutorial session for the slow learners are undeniably a great step to propel forward. Reading to pupils and conducting oral reading consistently will also help them to improve their skills.

By being an advocate on helping slow learners, we are indeed making a difference. Let us bear in mind that every child has potential. Not every child will be a doctor, an engineer or architect, but who cares! What matters most is that we are able to help them to be the best version of themselves.

References:

Slow Learner FAQ (Author and Year Uncited)