HELPING YOUR CHILD LEARN BASIC MATH

by:

BABYLIN S. JAVIERTO
Teacher III - Parang Elementary School

It took sometime for the pre-school child to learn his alphabets and to count. But it was necessary for him to master these basic knowledges to give him a good start in school. By that time, it will be necessary for the parents to help the child in learning the basic Mathematical operations of adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing numbers and understanding fractions and decimals.

Parents, according to an observer, are the child’s first and most important teachers. The classroom teachers are simply the parents trustees. Most classroom teachers are delighted to hear these comments. They would rather prefer to let the parents do the initial teaching.

When parents become teachers to their own children, they will readily inspire the youngsters to learn more while discovering their strengths and weaknesses in the learning process. For many more years, the children will look up to their parents for continuous tutoring.

The parents should never tell the child that they are no good in Math, whatever is the degree of proficiency they have about Math. They must continually try their best to help the child if only to encourage him to know more about Math.

The other point that parents must keep in mind is never to tell the child that girls are not as good in Math as boys. While this notion boosts the boys’ ego, it could discourage the girls.
Remember to reward the child, boy or girl with praise for the correct answers. Praises strengthen their confidence to solve problems. Such reward encourages them to stick to their study and work habits that will mold them into becoming useful citizens.

Word problems in Math generate difficulties and wrong interpretations or perceptions. The parents should encourage the child to restate what a problem is all about. The parents can assist, clarify, or confirm. The child proceeds with his solution. He feels happy he understood the problem and provided the correct and reasonable response.

There are varied instances at home when simple Math applies. The child should be encourage to participate to test his skills in problem-solving. The other important roles the parents play in Math is correcting mistakes the way they are not disgruntled and disappointed to the point of crying.

Discover the kinds of mistakes the child makes often. Easier problems from school text can be attempted or solved again. Parents can lead the child to understand by giving frequent trial at home and ensure the child’s progresses with his Math skills.

References:

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