HIGH NUMERACY TOWARDS SCIENTIFIC LITERACY

by:

Delfa T. Dabu

Master Teacher I, Mariveles National High School-Poblacion

What is the difference between numeracy and scientific literacy? Wikipedia defines numeracy as, “the ability to reason and to apply simple numerical concepts as well as comprehending fundamental arithmetic while scientific literacy encompasses written, numerical and digital literacy as they pertain to understanding science, its methodology, observations, and theories.”

Numeracy is one of the vital component of our everyday living. This is because of the presence or involvement of numbers in most activities that we do. Similarly, Science is everywhere, whatever we do, science is always there. Everything in this world is affected by Science. With this, we may conclude that both numeracy and scientific literacy play a very important role in the practical application of knowledge and in the improvement of skills.

In a Science class scenario, the learners struggle in dealing with scientific literacy caused by low numeracy skills. Scientific investigation involves measurements as in measuring the amount of substances, presenting quantitative data, converting one unit to another unit, and solving mathematical – like problems as in calculating the percentage by mass of solute and solvent as well as measuring the speed of an object.

Improvement in scientific skills depends on the continuity of learning and level of numeracy skills. Indeed, the mathematical ability should be mastered by learners in the earliest time to be able to comply with scientific learning skills pertaining to quantitative data. The learners with high numeracy skills easily cope up with scientific literacy skills. Therefore, high numeracy is directly proportional to scientific literacy.
Reference:

Wikipedia

https://www.en.m.wikipedia.org