HOW TO BE YOU PO, A GRADE ONE TEACHER?

by:
Emma Jane Turda - Piala
Master Teacher I, Balon Elementary School

Research from the 1970’s and 1980’s on the characteristics of effective elementary school teachers highlighted the importance of a strong academic focus, explicit instruction and high levels of pupils on task (Hoffman, 1991)

The role of a teacher is indispensable when it comes to nation building. He/she is the high priest of the future. It depends on him/her the responsibility of education. Education where in it starts in grade one.

To be a grade one teacher means being superman/ wonder woman because gigantic responsibilities are tasked to him/her. Thus, he/she must be equipped with the following traits or qualities:

Love for children. You must be loving because this will help you comprehend the various traits of grade 1 learners.

Love for work. A genuine liking for your work is a must. You must work with passion and love so you will not feel the tedious work of teachers.

Look on to diversity of learners. You must be keen in observing on the diverse difference of learners and their learning abilities. Stereotyping should be dislodged.

Established interaction and communication. Comprehend your learners. Go down to their level, so you will feel what are they going through.

Motivate learners. Encourage your pupils to interact and join in discussion and group activity. Let them express their feelings and show their skills.
Provide conducive environment. Let them feel they belong. Make the classroom atmosphere as if their home. Create a safe and orderly classroom environment free from destruction.

Develop critical thinking. Even grade one pupils can comprehend like adults. It is a matter of art in questioning. Develop their critical thinking by asking HOTS question during teaching and learning.

Give positive feedbacks. Pupils in grade one love appreciation. They love sweet words and words of encouragement. Doing such boosts their moral and can motivate them to strive independently.

Exercise teamwork. Let them understand that no man is an island. That they cannot stand alone. They need to work with their peers and learn from each other.

Having all these qualities make you a good if not the best grade one teacher in your generation.

References:

Samy A. Azr, MB PhD

Hoofman,( 1991)

Herman C. Gregorio

Principles and Methods of Teaching pp. 506-507