INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS TO ACHIEVE MATHEMATICS STANDARDS

by:
Jocelyn F. Acuña
Teacher III, Almacen Elementary School

Mathematics is one of the difficult subjects the learners encounter. It is also a teachers’ struggle on how to make it easier and make their learners understand it well. There are a lot of seminars that taught on how to facilitate the teaching and learning process in Math and it always comes up to effective instructional materials that is the most helpful way in teaching Mathematics. If the teachers prepare the right instructional materials that are suited to the learners, it is more likely to achieve the goal of learnings. There are variety of materials that we can use in teaching. We can apply the traditional way of preparing materials like chart, chalk and board, etc. But today with the help of technology, it gives teachers opportunity to level up their materials that can help the learners to understand the lesson more.

Instructional materials are important because these can significantly increase learners achievement by supporting learning and easily cope up with the lesson. Through instructional aids, these can also allow the learners to explore the knowledge independently. According to Greg Birchall, over recent years, there has been a convergence of ideas about how learners learn. It involved making decisions about issues that are common to different approaches to teaching. These included the way activities were structured, how experiences were used, the sort of choices learners could exercise and how learning was distributed.

Instructional materials are very helpful in teaching and learning process not only in Mathematics but also in all other subjects. There are many types of instructional materials that benefit the teachers to facilitate learning. These visualize materials like charts, power point presentation, flash cards, and video clips are materials that are been tested and more likely effective for the learner’s better understanding of the lesson. Another type of instructional materials are those that can be manipulated by the learners. These are very helpful for giving
the learners the opportunity to hold and execute the materials by themselves. Learning become fun and interesting if they can hold and manipulate the exact materials. These can also build creativity as part of enhancing the mastery of the learners for the lesson.

Passionate teachers give their extra efforts to make improvised instructional materials to make their learners understand the lesson well especially in teaching young children. Teachers are the most effective instructional materials. If the teachers have the courage and initiative to make their own instructional materials, learning process will be more fun and interesting. This will definitely achieve the standards of teaching and learning in the classroom. Instructional materials have the biggest impact in classroom goals and these are necessary ingredients in the development of the curriculum.

References:

Greg Birchall “The Role of Manipulative Materials in the Learning of Mathematical Concept” retrieved from www.google.com
Brad Hoffman “The Importance of Concrete Materials in Math Instruction” retrieved from mylearningspringboard.com