OPEN INQUIRY – BASED LEARNING, A RESPONSE TO THE CHANGES AND CHALLENGES OF THE MODERN WORLD

by:
Ryann R. Singian
Teacher III, Dinalupihan Elementary School

An old adage states: "Tell me and I forget, show me and I remember, involve me and I understand." This is the core essence of an open inquiry-based learning which suggests involvement and understanding in learning skills and attitudes that helps learners to seek solutions to questions and problems while they construct new knowledge.

Elementary school students are naturally curious, which makes science an ideal subject for them to learn. Science allows students to explore their world and discover new things. It is also an engaging subject, containing learnings such as hands-on labs and experiments. This makes science well-suited to active younger children. Science is an important part of the foundation for education for all children. (Jessica Cook, eHow)

Science begins as the children observe and describe their interaction with their environment. The teaching of Science offers learners the ability to understand of how and why things work like they do. Science teaches children essential skills that they can use in different zones of their lives. Kidsource.com reports, “Early experiences in science help children develop problem-solving skills and motivate them toward a lifelong interest in the natural world.”

In 21st Century Learning, students must engage in an open inquiry – based learning to apply knowledge to new situations, analyze information, collaborate, solve problems, and make decisions. It is an active approach that starts by giving problems, queries or
situations rather than simply presenting facts or merely giving the lesson proper alone. Through this learning approach, the teacher will simply act as facilitator of learning and the pupils will be the inquirers that make research which leads on the development of their knowledge or solutions. It is a pedagogical pill that supports active and engaging learning. Thus, improving options and choice for students will help improve student completion and achievement.

As a teacher of these modern learners who are now very prone in different hindrances like new technologies and media apps that block their interest in learning and communication and even expressing their thoughts, one must give students time and support as they learn through their own methods, and eventually present their results to discuss and expand. Helping them to develop their abilities and knowledge to analyze, synthesize and evaluate information and uplifting the high-level of thinking as to Bloom’s Taxonomy.

In line with the above reality, it is important to take a consideration as a teacher in order to improve the students’ achievement in scientific skills. One thing that must be taken into account is the strategy in teaching. A significant moment always begins as a concrete experience. Let us encourage others to upgrade their methods and techniques in the teaching-learning process. Let us be the cure and a response to the changes and challenges of the modern world.

References:


https://throwingbacktokens.wordpress.com/2011/03/13/tell-me-forget-show-me-i-remember-involve-me-aunderstand/