REMEDIAL TEACHING STRATEGIES AND OBJECTIVES

by:

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Teaching is the greatest act of optimism, as said by American artist Colleen Wilcox. They play the most important role in the development of children’s skills and abilities. Their influence, attitude in the classroom and effectiveness has powerful impact on the students. Thus, they should never give up in educating the youth, even the ones who lag far behind and show difficulties in learning and understanding lessons.

From this principle stems the objectives of remedial teaching program, which has been necessary in the educational system in the Philippines. The said program has been proven effective in providing learning support to students who have different levels of understanding. Mostly, it helps children and even adults who were not able to enrol in schools at the right age.

According to the Education Bureau of Hong Kong, under the worldwide-prescribed remedial teaching program, teachers should be able to identify students’ diverse learning needs as soon as possible so that they may design appropriate teaching plans to facilitate pupils' effective learning. Since students have different characteristics in learning, teachers must device different learning activities with the same teaching objective to develop their varied abilities and skills. Throughout the teaching process, teachers should provide systematic training to develop students’ generic skills including interpersonal relationship, communication, problem-solving,
self-management, self-learning, independent thinking, creativity and the use of information technology.

Moreover, remedial teachers should specifically design meaningful learning situations, language environments, games or activities so as to provide personal learning experiences for pupils and stimulate their interest and initiative in learning. It is more effective for teachers to adopt a series of relevant and simple teaching activities than assigning one long teaching activity since students may acquire the required knowledge and skills through diversified activities.

Further, teachers should focus on the learning process and not on the results of the exams. It is also important to take note that teaching should not only focus on the transmission of knowledge. It is also important to see that students benefited from the entire learning process. Teachers should provide ample opportunities in class for students to practice and think what they have learnt, and allow them to solve problems by different means. Teachers should also carefully observe the performances of students and give them appropriate assistance, feedback and encouragement so as to help them acquire the learning skills, solve their problems and understand their own capability, thus enhancing self-confidence and improving their learning skills.