TEACHING READING IN THE KINDERGARTEN

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To produce functionally literate children is the goal of every school. The Department of Education campaigns to strengthen the reading program in schools. No read no pass policy is implemented. Within the division, reading corners are established to further boost the program implementation.

As defined in the dictionary, reading is a means of language acquisition of communication and of sharing information and ideas. With this in view, teachers should be serious on their roles especially in ensuring that there is no child left behind, that everybody can read.

The school must have a variety of reading materials like fairy tales, legends, dictionaries, encyclopedias, bible stories, newspapers, magazines and even multimedia sources. There are schools with libraries or reading centers. But unfortunately, there are some do not have it yet.

For teaching reading in the kindergarten, with reference to https://www.colorincolorado.org/article/reading-kindergarten, learning to read in their primary language is easier because it builds on the words and sound structures of the language that the children know best. Children at the kindergarten level are little sponges who learn what they are taught. The key to learning to read is excellent instruction.

Excellent instruction consists vocabulary development, phonemic awareness, knowledge of the alphabet, letter-sound correlation, concepts of print, listening comprehension, decoding, and comprehension skills. While it is true that kindergarten teachers should not for the children to read, still, if some children perform more than
what is expected, then they may be given the opportunity to read. Being able to teach reading in the kindergarten is a commendable work.

The performance of the pupils relies heavily on the effectiveness of the teachers. This is for real. And even kindergarten pupils are just five to six years old, it is an achievement for their teacher that they can read at the end of the school year. Moreover, it is a big help for the Grade 1 teacher if most of her incoming pupils are already readers.

References:

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