THE IMPORTANCE OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS IN TEACHING SCIENCE

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Instructional materials are said to be of great importance in the teaching and learning process. These materials along with the effective teaching strategies may help teachers to become more effective and efficient in teaching. These also help the learners to easily understand the lesson teacher want to impart to the learners.

Science subject is considered as a difficult subject by many. It is one of the content subject on which teachers’ good strategies are needed to make it interesting to learners. With this scenario, good, varied and appealing instructional materials are needed to catch the pupils’ attention and to make the teaching & learning process easier & smooth.

As an intermediate Science teacher, here are some of instructional materials which I employ on the science subject that will help teachers teach the Subject easier.

Use of models

Models serve as the representation of the object or the concept you want to teach your learners. Utilizing model in your science class will really catch their attention. Learning takes place because they are seeing the model on your lessons. For example, when teaching body systems, the human torso model is a good instructional material you can use. Through this, the learners are able to visualize the real appearance of the body parts & body system you are tackling. Pupils will really enjoy while seeing.

Models are also manipulative. With this, the learners will pay attention on your lesson and will not consider science as a boring subject.

Use ICT PowerPoint and Videos
As K to 12 teachers, we are now faced with the millennial learners. The learners nowadays are more attracted on strategies using ICT such as videos and PowerPoint. The use of this instructional material is really of great help also to me as a science teacher. A lot of PowerPoint materials and instructional video materials can now be downloaded from the internet. Using these materials, will wake your pupils focus & pay attention on your discussions. Pupils also find IVM more interesting & enjoyable. As an ICT literate, a teacher can also design and make her/his own PowerPoint & IVM. This is more advisable to do because you can create a material suitable to the level of understanding of your pupils but it takes time, patience & creativity.

Using this instructional strategy had made my teaching in Science a lot easier on my part and a lot of fun & enjoyment on my pupil’s part.

Improvised Science materials

Teaching science subject comes with a lot of experiment and hands on minds on activities. With the limited supply of science materials & equipment, teachers need to become resourceful so that they can have a substitute in the material not available on the science room. You can let your pupils do the improvisation so that they can also develop on themselves the value of work, cooperation & resourcefulness. Using improvised instructional materials will also help you carry out the needed skill to be learn without needing to present to them the original material that are usually costly and hard to find from stores.

The above-mention instructional materials are some only of the best and useful. Materials you can use on your science subject. You can either use one of them or a combination of them depending what your lesson requires. They will surely improve your instructional competence especially when you are wise in choosing the material to use. Using the appropriate instructional material will truly improve your performance and can influence pupil’s achievement in Science.
References:
