THE IMPORTANCE OF SCHOOL READINESS

by: Gina W. David
Teacher III Tucop Integrated School

So much literature reported that school readiness among children is linked to their performance and adjustment to school. As most educators believe, children with lower levels of readiness are more likely to have trouble in school. In addition, they may have problems related to behavior and social skills.

However, some parents don’t pay much attention as regards to school readiness. There are still some who want their children to be in school even when it seems they are not yet ready. This is quite alarming because maladjustment may occur later in a child’s school career.

Pieterse (2012) in her online newsletter stated that the first five years of life are critical to lifelong development. Early experience and environment set the stage for future success in life. She further stated that readiness is a stage where children can learn easily without emotional disturbance. It is a condition that children are ready to learn.

Parungao (2000) in a study “Assessment of Early Formal Schooling on Child Development: The Case of the Admission of Six-Year-Old Children to Grade 1” showed that with regards to their perception on child’s intellectual development, the administrators agreed while the teachers minimally agreed that it becomes an increasing concern with the growing emphasis placed on education. Although they differ in their perception, still the focus is on the development of the learner, that children who are presented with valid, rich and colorful worlds have the greatest chance of maximizing potentials.
In terms of emotional development, the administrators agreed while the teachers minimally agreed on the extent to which a child’s development and growth are determined by the type of emotional interactions he/she has. The administrators generally observed that social development determines how well children interact with the world, and determine the nature of their interactions, on how well they will get along with others. The teachers also agreed that social interactions must be considered in the same way as intellectual ones. Again, interactions with the environment become increasingly important, as a child grows older, his behavior is determined more by outside influences than just by the genetic contributions of his parents.

Parents and teachers play an enormous role in the preparation of the children for school. Parents have to remember that they do not need to force their children to attend schooling especially when the kids are not yet ready. Instead, they have to provide the necessary stimuli. Children thrive when families are there to surround them with love and support. This gives them the feeling to learn and explore their world.

References:
