THE IMPORTANCE OF TEACHING READING

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To improve the achievement level of the students in our educational system our school has been consistent in finding ways and means to enhance the quality of teaching and learning process from the previous years to the present, thus different curriculum are tried, tested and implemented.

In this era of a fast changing and developing society, students are confronted with problems on reading. Despite impressive reading program and teaching innovations launched by Department of Education to boost Philippine literacy, it was proven that non-readers in public and elementary school are still existing.

As a teacher, it is important that we realize that reading serves as the key in understanding all the other subjects a student has to learn. An educator might think of reading as a component of the English and Filipino subjects, but in the field of teaching reading paves the way to understanding all other subjects. However, as the year pass by as studies have shown, the Filipino youth nowadays seem to develop into two categories: illiterates and alliterates. An illiterate is a person who does not know how to read or decode. He cannot collate that the groups of letters made up sounds that produce the word. While an alliterate is a person who knows how to read but does not want to read.

So how does a teacher do about in developing her pupils in to good teachers?
Elementary is the entry level of most pupils into education although most children nowadays have access to pre-elementary education; in general, most children start at Grade I. Grade I teachers need a lot of patience and a few tricks up her sleeve to ensure that all her pupils will be able to read by the end of school year. Proper training and a lot of sensibility also needed. One of the most basic requirements for a grade one teacher is the ability to “model” the sounds each letter represent.

However, it is not the sole responsibility of the teacher to introduce and prepare a child to read. Studies show that pupils who have been prepped at home become better readers than those who do not. So it is not the sole responsibility of the teacher alone to ensure that a child’s reading progress. Teachers and parents must help each other and give regular feedback to monitor the child.

In view of this, teachers must be given the opportunity to develop themselves as professional and empower them to be creative and strong-willed professional teachers.

References: