THE INTERNET AS A POSITIVE TEACHING TOOL

by:
Joy Ann B. Inlong
Teacher III, Panilao Elementary School

Before the Internet age, doing self-study and researches were time-consuming hardwork. Libraries, hardcopies, textbooks were the mainstream and the people who grew up in this era pride themselves of learning without "spoon-feeding" through "blood and sweat". In the light of technological growth, we not only see the advantages but more of the dangers which come with it. The Internet provides fast access to information but also misinformation, fake news, addictive online games, bullying, and age-inappropriate contents. Furthermore, social networking sites and gaming can also cause distraction, tempting students away from their planned learning activity. Still, the advantages of using the internet for the purpose of learning should outweigh the negative.

Students should always be encouraged to use the internet responsibly not only by teachers but also with the help of the parents and guardians. And since the internet should be considered a supplement to the regular learning that students get inside the classroom, students should also be taught to screen the information they see online. If used effectively, it enhances the students self-reliance in being able to find information on their own. It can also be a fun way to learn which could make studying more exciting for them. Not only that, students can also learn more than the scope of regular education.

Imagine, today they can learn about other culture, current events, places and countries, and a lot more very accessibly. It is like a window to the world which is something that learners can use to their advantage. Furthermore, the Internet is also fast-paced which means that they can have access to information in a very little time. Anything that can help in educating the young should always be taken as a positive thing,
but with the right guidance. We should never be scared of technological progress; let's embrace and celebrate every opportunity for our students to learn and let's start by using the Internet effectively in the learning process.

References:

What can the Internet do to my classroom?  
https://www.thirteen.org/edonline/concept2class/classroominternet/index_sub2.htm