

Role Of Teachers In Primary Education

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The subjects of primary education are children and the teacher is the key person in the process of primary education. Without his/her touch and skill, the most sophisticated curriculum will be limp and boring. For education at any level, the goal of the teachers should be to provide activities that will help toward the attainment of curriculum objectives through the development of the individual child. The role of the teachers should also involve.

a) determining the status of the pupil with respect to age and educational background through asking parents, interviews, observations and allowing the subjects to perform activities that involve basic language skills, simple arithmetic, etc. Once the teacher feels that he/she has recorded a sufficient amount of information, the next step follows:

b) Selectin the activity/Programme

The teacher, after analyzing what the pupils can and cannot do, sets goals in areas that need further development. He/she then analyzes the general goals in terms of specific areas or objectives that can be converted into learning experiences—including the kind of stimuli that will be used in the learning activity, the responses expected of the child/children and the behaviour criterion that will indicate his/her mastery. The stimuli can be either concrete (actual materials), representational (pictures) or symbolic (sign and words). In order to actually assimilate and accomodate new information, the child should move sequentially from concrete stimuli, first to the representational and then to the symbolic.

(c) planning and presenting the activity:

Children at the primary level are 'the knower'—we are concerned with is in a critical stage in the development of his intellect and his personality. The first decision the teacher should make regarding planning any activity involves the content-vehicle. choices may include art play, science field trip, stories or simple projects etc. There are many opportunities in the simple, daily experiences of children to build up a fund of knowledge about concepts

of maths, physical science etc. The next step is selecting the materials that will reinforce the particular concepts being stressed by the teacher, and it is here, in planning classroom environment that the teachers' creativity can totally support the programme, goals and objectives.

Factors like the number of children and their age levels, the number of resource people, the time of the year should be considered.

With every child the teacher will try to promote learning by creating a 'climate for discovery'. After the activity has been planned and presented, the teacher must make judgments as to whether or not the children have actually achieved the objective. Reviewing the programme made by the children, the teacher identifies all those who have not achieved the objective, and how to regroup them. Observation and assessment are ongoing tasks; this is the key to effective learning if the teacher truly is to function as a facilitator of the learning-teaching process.

The major impact of teacher's evaluation is in the improvement of the educational experience of each child. By knowing her children and the result of classroom activities, the teacher

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can return to her planning continuing activities that have proved successful and continuing to extend the learning opportunities of the children in her class.

A good teacher is continually nurturing the child's readiness to move forward into more complex activities. It should be pointed out that nurturing readiness does not imply pressures for earlier formal reading. However, it only implies that a child, through experience and imagination and creativity progresses from concrete thinking to one of symbolic and abstract thinking.

As a teacher, one should also contribute to the child's feeling of security and adequacy if we tell him what he can do rather than what he cannot do, if we direct his expressions, feelings and actions which are not destructive and will not make him feel guilty. Fostering confidence in the child will make him self-confident and secure.