**My Dream as a Teacher of Young English Learners**

199KTC First Essay Matt.

 I hope to get the required knowledge and practical methodologies or tools to be a good teacher for young English learners. I know that 36 days of 3 hours duration is too short to achieve it. So I need to save time and concentrate on the classes. Especially, I want to see and practice many activities which can be used for children of various language levels and skills. Most of all, I need to get more understandings and matters to be attended to in order to communicate with the young learners. If possible, I also hope to gain useful expressions which teachers normally uses frequently in the class. I know I am the one who is in charge of it and I will make it by myself while doing many activities in the class.

 My purpose as an English teacher is not only to teach certain knowledge or skills to young students. But rather I want to be their friend, a little old friend, who they can share their thoughts or feelings openly with.

I feel sad and sympathy on Korean children because most of them became dedicated to studying in very early time. Korean parents think the only way to make their kids survive fiercely competitive Korean society is to make them get extreme high rating in the school exams and university entrance exam. So they push their children, even in elementary school ages, into various kind of education institutes for reading and discussion, mathematics, English etc. I see that Korean children have little time to communicate with somebody and they are losing the happiness of communicating. Their study is just obligation to meet their parents’ requirements and big burden on their shoulders. Smart phone and internet games are the only channels through which they can get joy and happiness but I know these channels can ruin their mind and cannot resolve the genuine problems such like helplessness or loneliness.

 I hope I could be a teacher who can communicate with the young learners. I hope they feel joy when they talk, securely in English, and they found it’s happy to share their words in their own thought with one another. I believe that their English capability will be surely improved every day and surprisingly if they feel happiness while listening, speaking, reading and writing English. They will never give up communicating with English because they use English not because it gives them high grade in the exam but it gives happiness when they use it. “Make Them Happy When They Talk.” This is my dream as a teacher of young learners.

 Now I need to prepare myself and exercise to make that dream into a reality. Most of all I need to use English much more myself. I know I’m still lacking in using English freely and without that it is impossible to lead the students to learn effectively. The more I use abundantly different kinds of expressions, the faster the students improve their vocabulary and language skills. To do that I need to expose myself more to English communication environment; movie and drama clips and useful expressions from the teaching materials or actual meeting up with English talking people if possible... etc.

 But what is more important is how I can prepare the activity route maps and lesson plans which are fit to my students. I need to get know-how and capability to make the lesson plans based on the class students’ interesting and family & school environment not only on their English language level. The main success factors for this mission are how much I understand their minds and feelings and how I can encourage and inspire them to move and use English. I think there is no royal road for it. How much I have interest to each kid. How much more I spend my time to contact and talk with each student. How much more I think of them and put my heart into themselves… Only these kind of all efforts will help me to make effective and suitable lesson plans for my class.

 I think I have to focus on too much on what should I teach my students correctly in the class. But today, I feel that what I should really concentrate on is how I can make the students enjoy to use English and how I can make them feel confident in using English. This cannot be accomplished by the contents I provide to the learners but by the way how I lead them to involve themselves in the class actively and how I respect their efforts and potential abilities they have.

 What is more, I’m thinking a new method to make the learner contribute themselves proactively in using English. I would like to suggest them to find their most interesting area in the world and find the related stuffs (words) and theories in the area by themselves. And periodically they will have time to present their findings in the class. I think this kind of approach can promote students to lift themselves up to the owner of the class.

 I love kids. Actually I love people, human. But I feel that it just stay in my thought or mind only. If it’s inside only, it’s fantasy. So I need to make it real if it’s really there. That is one of my purpose to be a teacher. The students whom I will meet will make myself real. While I’m meeting and talking with the learners, I will see how they are valuable, precious and powerful. Of course, I will see many disappointing things in them. But what I can do is just respect them, trust their potentials and maximize them. Through this process I’m sure that I will be born again as a real teacher.

 It’s my great fortune and destiny to meet Times Media TESOL. I have felt this when I see many young children start English with word memorizing, grammar and taking exam. I have felt it is a tragedy and thought somebody need to change this wrong English learning system. I hope I can contribute a little to that change in the help of Times Media TESOL program and the instructors here, Jayme and Frank. And I’m sure these changes eventually can change the whole English learning culture in Korea someday.