

ACHARYA: THE MORAL HEART OF TEACHING

Prashant Thote and S. Gowri

Gyanodaya Vidya Mandir

Abstract:

Motivation factor is passion, and it is a momentous need for good quality teaching- learning process. Passion has the capacity to create and to transmit them into action. It is simply a tendency and a willingness to spend energy and time on an activity that someone like and is important to them. Passion is recognized with love, hope, loyalty, care, enthusiasm and these are crucial for effective teaching. It is a principle subject in inspiring and motivating them. Teacher without passion is merely information deliverer and transformer who plays a role and does the mechanical action. There may be little stimulation for learners beyond what they find intrinsically interesting in their subjects. Teaching with passion offers the potential to elevate the learner's interest in the subject. Passionate teachers may create passionate learners. Teachers manifest their passion in different ways. Expression of passion for the subject and teaching looks very different depending upon the nature of teaching. Teachers may demonstrate their passion through some ways. Passionate teachers are well-known by their commitment towards the success of their learners and it is essential for a successful teacher. They are anxious about the growth of students and profoundly struggle to maintain the learner's curiosity in learning. Shouldering commitment to student's learning is a vital feature in motivating students and they recognize and endeavor to fulfill their responsibility to their students. The amount of devotion they have towards their profession is one of their divergent characters; such teachers play a crucial role in the growth of the students.

Key words: passionate, dedication, commitment, effectiveness and enthusiasm

Introduction:

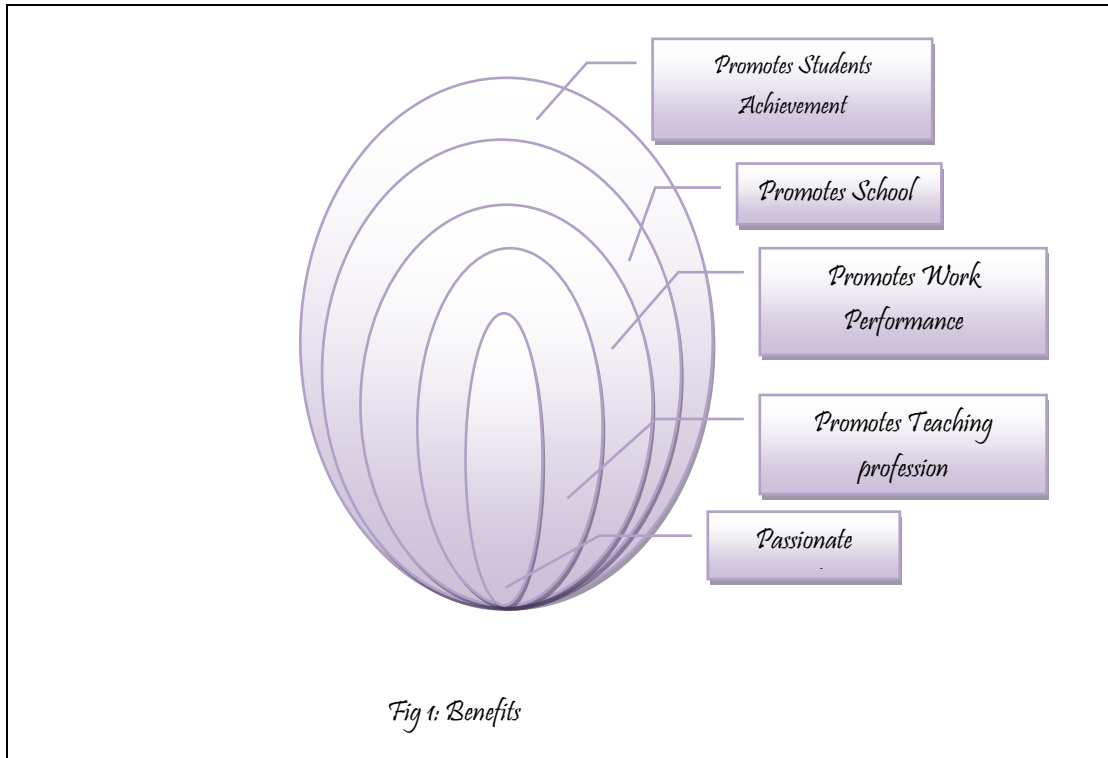
"We may affirm absolutely that nothing great in the world has been accomplished without passion" – Hegal

It is very noteworthy that the passion of a teacher is a contributing factor for students' academic improvement and holistic development. It drives teachers effectively and pushes students to learn effectively. Passion in teachers brings care, motivation, willingness and contributes positive learning and climate. It is true that teaching techniques employed makes difference in the learning process. It motivates learners to participate actively in learning. If students know that the teachers take care about them, the students will take the learning process seriously. Teaching is not a job by force but turns to be an inspiration for learners. The co-operation between teachers and students brings trust and respect which make teaching-learning effective and efficient. The classroom instructions based on the daily life experiences motivates learners. Passionate teachers shoulder responsibility to motive learners to achieve intended learning outcome. Passionate teachers motivate learners, have sound subject knowledge, and apply innovative and creative techniques. It builds empathy for students and use emotions and knowledge simultaneously, actively involves students in classroom instructions. Helps students to produce quality work and develop good habits of work. They are always concerned about the needs of students. The emotional attachment to the professional commitment reflects on their goals and their job and positively contributes to both teaching and learning.

What is passion?

Passion is learning new and giving importance. It is a constant search and effort for learning new matters. It is an inspirational factor for better learning accomplishment. Teachers build an effective learning atmosphere and enhance the learning potential of the students. It leads to creativity and innovations. Hence the passionate teachers are committed and dedicated to their schools. Good educational achievement is an outcome of their commitment and dedication.

Being passionate is closely linked to learning and experiencing new ideas.



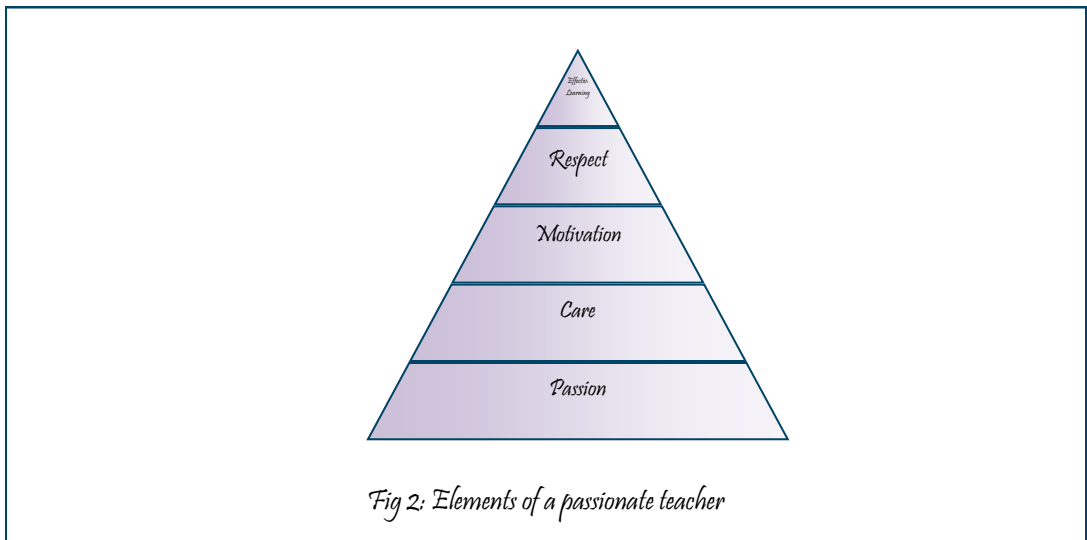
Who is a passionate teacher?

Passionate teacher loves the field of knowledge, deeply excited about the ideas that change the globe and are deeply interested in the potentials and dilemmas of young minds. Passionate teachers love work and teaching-learning process. It is an essential element to improve the quality of teaching-learning process. Passionate teachers are committed to germinate conducive environment for learning among students. Passion leads to the innovation and creativity, thus they have to enhance positive thinking and nurture new ideas.

Passion is a strong inclination towards desirable activities in which one invests time and energy. Passionate teachers motivate and encourage students for an active learning and genuine concern for the learner's nourishment of intellectual and moral development. Such teachers work with enthusiasm, dedication and increased commitment and understand the significance of their job responsibility. These are the better empirical background for understanding that teachers may and do make differences. They consistently provide quality education and strive hard for continuous professional development and deliver magical improvement in students learning. Commitment to teaching-learning also significantly contributes to positive behaviour, attitude, perception and performance.

The committed teacher's fraternity has the potential to perform their role effectively and efficiently that the job requires and establishes a sound teacher-student relationship in accordance with professional values. Such approach facilitates student's learning and develops positive mental development. In the rattle between the career goals and values, ethics and professional ethics, institutional goals and values the prominence of dedication and commitment increases. The basic goal and value of teaching-learning is to shape student's behavioural change in accordance with the principles of educational sciences.

Teacher's commitment to school is manifested in identifying with school, feeling part of school and being loyal to educational institution. Professional and successful school teachers have commitment to school and profession. The propulsive force is commitment. It is a kind of feeling by which the mind is powerfully affected and moved. It is the driving force, motivational force that emanates from the strength of emotions. Being passionate generates energy, determination, conviction, commitment and observation. Passion leads to enhanced vision and narrow down the pursuit of a goal to explore other things. Passion is developed according to the personal and social conditions. Bringing passionate and resilient self to teaching every day, every week for every school term and every year may be stressful not only to body but also to the heart and soul. The process of teaching-learning is rarely smooth and results are not always predictable. Hence the teachers who enter this profession with commitment, hope and optimism erode in a battle with those who don't wish to learn and distract other opportunities to learn, increasing media criticisms and lack of work-life balance, talk to folk. It is a key responsibility to prepare students for these better.



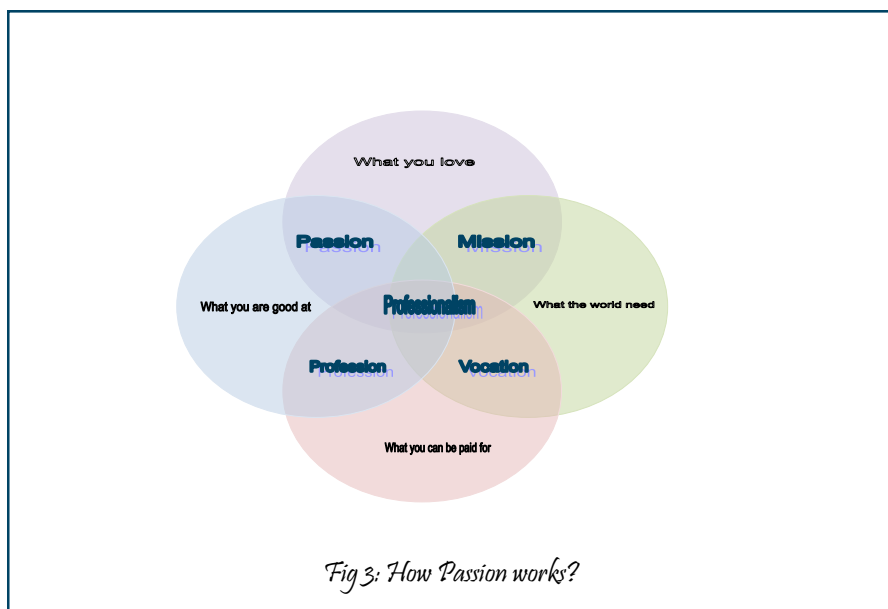
Passionate Teacher:

The teaching skills are significantly important to teach students effectively and efficiently. Teaching skills are effective for teaching-learning process in the classroom, managing small group learning (quality circle) and for preparing an assessment exercise. The teaching skill alone is not enough. A Good teacher has to motivate students and be passionate towards teaching-learning process. True passionate teacher has a zeal for the subject and teaching. A Good teacher gets feedback from the students and presents the subject content with clarity and conveys the content of the subject with excitement and enthusiasm. All efficient teachers have passion for the subject, teaching and confident that their teaching makes difference to their students. The worst teacher is not the one who knew less or taught less but the one who do not have interest in students.

A passionate teacher has the passion for teaching in the daily walk of life. The passionate teacher is easily distinguishable from foibles and idiosyncrasies. It makes the teacher popular and memorable among students. A passionate teacher positively transfers knowledge better.

Does passion work?

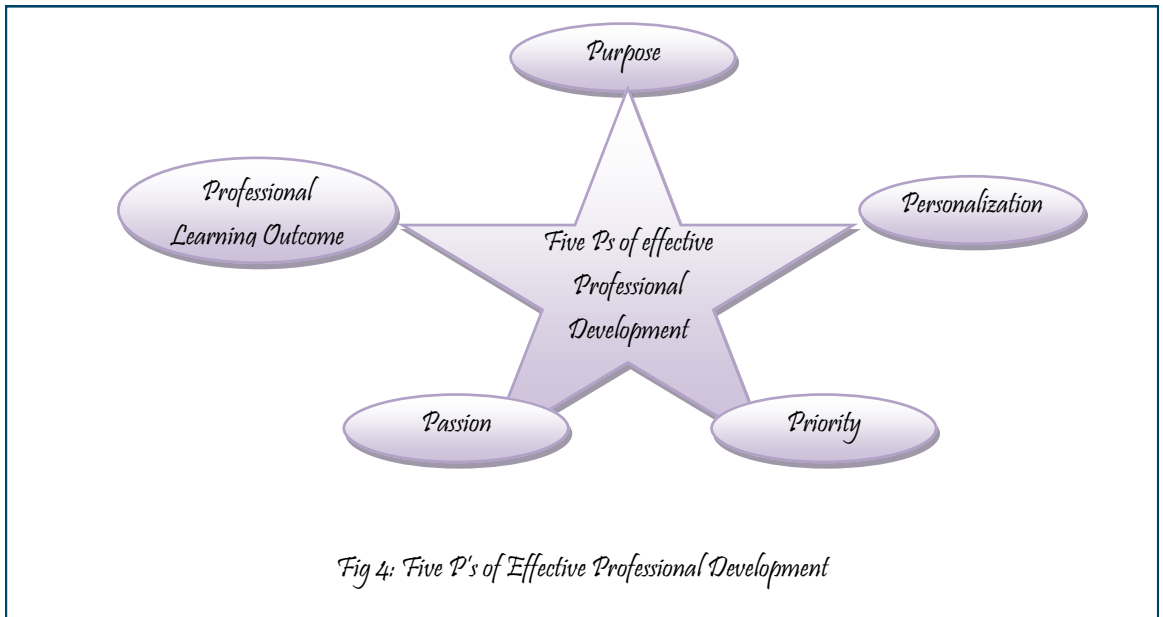
Now, the big question is that whether passion is important for teaching-learning process. The certain answer is 'yes'. The effective teaching is the result of combination of several factors. The passion for teaching is at the heart of a good teacher. The skill and attribute of a good teacher is to induce enthusiasm and passion among students also. They motivate students, share and understand them fully. Passion, motivation and initiating of a good teacher has a significant impact on the academic achievement of the students. When teachers have the passion for teaching, the students enjoy their teaching. When teachers show positive mental attitude towards teaching, the students enthusiasm for their subjects increase and they make earnest attempt to catalyze the students learning. A Good teacher who has inner passion not only strives hard for the self-excellence in teaching and in school work but also helps students to excel in academic performance. Passion is the key element for effective and efficient student learning. The passion for teaching is essential than the subject knowledge, teaching methodology and integration of technology in teaching-learning process.



Every teacher may be a passionate teacher:

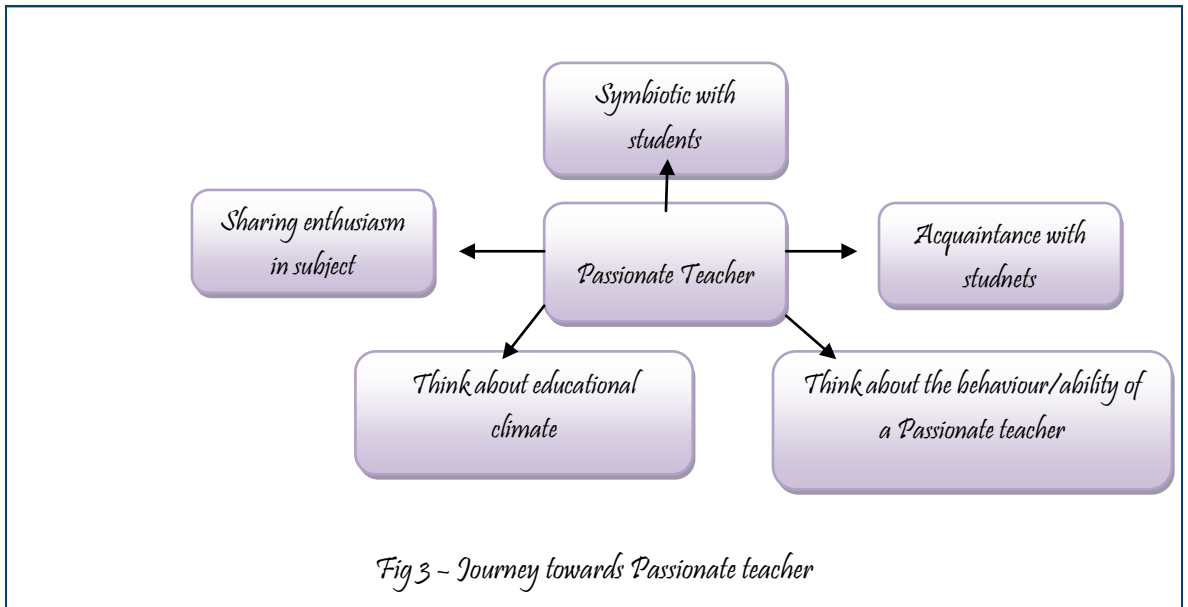
The love for teaching makes the teacher passionate. A person who does not love teaching should not become a teacher. Passionate teachers are the silver line in the dark cloud for the society. A passionate teacher does not require any exceptional ability. The personal traits of a teacher are not discovered or learned but the passion for teaching is learnt and acquired.

To develop passion is not an easy journey and it is full of challenges and problems. Depending on the personality of the teachers, passion emerges in different ways. It is not essential to be an extrovert for a classroom teaching-learning process but passion about the content is important throughout. Teacher can be refined or be reserved in their class room delivery and still convince students through their commitment and enthusiasm in their subject and as well motive the student also.



Suggestions:

- As a teacher one must think how to share the enthusiasm for subjects to students.
- Students should experience the working symbiosis with teachers to catalase the learning and they should not feel that an expert is standing aloof and they should feel oneness in the class room.



- The most important task is to define a learning outcome, provide equal educational opportunities to all students, fair examination and assessment, create positive learning environment. It must reflect from our work and students must experience the same.
- It is the responsibility of the teachers to create conducive learning climate in the classroom to catalyze interpersonal relationship, empathy, self-esteem, patience and sense of humour among students.
- Teachers must be committed to provide an equal opportunity to the students on the basis of the individual differences, individual potential and depending on the strength of the students.
- Teachers must provide valuable insight to the curriculum planning.
- Teachers must think about their own teachers whom they respected most and must learn from them that teaching method that inspire the most.
- Teacher must think about the stimulating factor that satisfies and motivates them to develop further.
- There are many obstacles like skeptics trying to damage the enthusiasm, time constraints, huge number of students in the class, insufficient resources and problem in the idea etc., but teachers must keep in their mind that most of the challenges, obstacles and problems are surmountable.
- Teachers must integrate their passion outside the subject in the teaching like passion for bird watching, butterfly watching and gardening. All these can be used as a metaphor and as illustrate for educational purpose.
- Teachers must connect and collaborate with others to sustain the desire as a teacher, participate actively in training, conference, workshops and become a member of professional bodies in their respective field.

Burn out the stress:

Teaching –learning process is successful for variety of reasons. The most passionate and enthusiastic teacher are stressed out and overtime they are subjected to “burn out. It is linked with the need for emotional feelings, exhaustion, fatigue, development of negative cynical attitude of fellow members and students, negative evaluation of self- resulting from lack of personal achievement. A teacher at times feels overwhelmed with problems, issues, challenges and workload. The better understanding of work, acquiring skill to tackle and handle the task, may assist teacher to address challenges, obstacles, problems and issues. Still problem persists then the help should be sought.

Characteristics of a passionate teacher:

Teaching is a sole, single, positive and an essential social service through specialized training. Such services in the terms of facilitation of learning based on beliefs, practices and needs of students and communities are necessary. Teaching-learning is an important process of school educational arrangement. The first norm of teaching is that “nothing can be taught”. It has to be fetched out and developed from within the students and this is an art of a teacher. Teacher is not a task master but a helper, friend, philosopher and guide. He is in true sense a multi-task master and a versatile actor.

Teachers are interested in what and how students learn and elaborate assessment methods have been formulated to measure these. At the end of the previous era, evidences are accumulated which suggests that much more concern is needed about how our students learn and about the contextual forces that shape their learning. Teachers come across many students who face difficulties with their studies. They face problems not only because of their psychological forms, lack of application or the specific ways of learning but also be directly attributable to the way the teachers teach, organization of courses and the conduction of assessment.

The role of the teachers frequently differs in small group of learning according to the stages of academic development of the learners and familiarity with the process and maturity of the students. The most important issues of the class room instructions are equal participation of learners in learning process, nurturing critical thinking, reflective time management and encouragement of positive constructive feedback. Teachers are not the source of liner information but they act as facilitators.

The professional responsibilities of school educators are usually grounded in the areas of teaching practices to improve school education system and research. The skill learning is a complex process because it includes a wide span of training in eliciting normal and abnormal physical sign, effective communication skills, reasoning, practical procedure, attitude, values, morals and ethics. Very useful strategic approaches to teaching-learning are student-centric interactive session, case study, role play, models, teaching aids and experiential learning activities. Effective teachers create jocular environment for the acquisition of knowledge, skills and attitudes in terms of generating free environment where students may learn without the fear of embracement and negative criticism. Learning takes place in a joyful environment.

Designer:

Teachers are the designer of interesting learning. A Science teacher can provide huge loads of ever evolving scientific information to the students having high and low understanding in an interesting way. Teachers must design classroom instructions effectively and interestingly. Teachers must be stable and smart enough to reach out to learners of all levels of understanding. The key to attain the goal is to define what is core (relevant) and non-core (wider aspect of the topic) in the school curriculum. It is highly useful information and similarly it prevents the loss of interest, confusion and exhaustion of students. It is achieved through structured teaching programme, organizing educational strategies providing learners with an introductory overview, introducing assessment style, real life example, presentation, symposium etc. Teachers are performers and their role is to entrance their students. Presentation skill of a teacher is important in attaining the learning goals. Keeping eye-contact with students, encourage questions, speaking style, occasional jokes, humor, audio-visuals, flip charts, slides, handouts, use of information communication technology are the useful tool in classroom instructions.

Good communicator:

Teachers must be the master of communication. Effective communication is the core of student-teacher relationship. Effective communications is not an option but an obligation. Teachers must establish open communication in learning system achieve most of the learning goals and competencies. There are various models of communications like Pendleton model.

Survivor of daily challenges:

Teachers sometime face tight situation during the course of teaching-learning activities in the form of interruptions like late comers, unexpected queries, talking, sleeping students, rude behavior, un-cooperative students and technical interruptions. Such situations should be dealt in a calm manner. It is highly appreciable to reach to class early/on time and be familiar with teaching tools/experiment/power point presentations/projects. Keeping a sort of supplementary back up, reconstructing and restricting the schedules of class/lectures should be done if everything else fails.

Ethical:

Teachers must have good understanding and implementation of the professional ethics. A teacher is the one whose hands lay the quality of future citizens. An ideal teacher believes in value and poise of each students, recognize the utmost importance of the pursuit of truth, devotion, excellence and nature of demographic principles. It is very much essential to protect the freedom to teach and learn and assure equal learning opportunities. Teachers must accept the responsibility to adhere to the highest ethical standards in search of knowledge and service to the society. Teachers must possess spiritual humility, intellectual purity an emphasize heart with sound professional skills. There is no better reward or stronger incentive for teaches than developing the attitude of humanity in 'tomorrows citizens'.

The class personality:

Teachers are the role model and rules minds and hearts of students out of respect and admiration. Such teachers are polite, empathetic and gentle. Teachers earn their respect based on the rapport between the students and the teachers. To acquire such sort of deep impact on students the role of rankers, power-play, race, background, gender are not significant. The most important element lays in the teacher's overall personality which includes knowledge, pedagogical strategies, social, professional and personal skills.

Lifelong learners:

Teachers are not stagnant and they value the growth of intellectual, perception with motivation of teaching-learning, desire to learn with an impartial, unbiased attitude and behavior. Such motivation is internal. Teachers are lifelong learners. To acquire such expertise teachers should be energetic, enthusiastic and must have a good memory power and must be updated irrespective of all.

Ardent researcher:

Teachers must continuously conduct experiment and research along with teaching pedagogy and curriculum to innovate best way to reach learners. Teachers provide sufficient opportunity for the construction of feedback from students and peers. Teachers must have the practice of watching their own reordered lecture session for self-criticism and improvement.

Constant assessor:

Teachers are the constant assessor for the self-achievement of teaching-learning goals and students performance. Such assessment governs the quality of education in long terms. Teachers must realize the effectiveness of assessment, when to assess and how to assess. The discovery of perfect and ideal tool of assessment is almost impossible. Teachers must use rigorous application of assessment in professional training and continuously search for the ways and means of improvement.

Technological whiz:

The chalk and board is not a perfect tool for teaching-learning. 21st century teachers must have access to broad range of technological tools to embark. To make learning joyful experience teachers need to acquire and transmit information and outcome based learning to augment the quality of teaching-learning. In-service teacher training, faculty development programme are the big assistance for novices.

Provider of good educational environment:

Teachers are the facilitator, motivator to students and boost their morale. Teachers refrain themselves from negative, offensive criticism while gently guiding students along the right path and directions. Teachers-students relationship is characterized by the qualities such as mutuality, flexibility, collaboration, interdependency, emotional investment and support their own identity. Good teachers recognize these qualities/characteristics and value of individual students with learning behavior. Teachers provide support and supervision to these values.

It is not easy to develop among students the spirit of team work and cooperation, if climate in school is comparative and competitive than collaborative. Instruments are now available to assess the educational climate in school. Teachers must create an unrestrained classroom climate with freedom of thought and expression for all. Cheerful learning climate enable learners to learn with freedom and happiness.

Stimulator of deep learning:

Teachers must identify the nature of desired learning outcomes and follow appropriate design of teaching-learning style. It is essential for deep learning. Teachers must inculcate among learners the responsibility of their own education and art and science of lifelong learners. Teachers achieve this by letting the learners understand the idea behind work principles and concepts involved rather than handling more facts. Science teachers may be a powerful 'recall stimulator' by involving the context based on the association of all senses of students during teaching-learning process such as hearing, speech, vision, psychomotor skills and critical thinking. Gagne instructional design provides an important systematic and useful approach for students learning based experiential learning activities.

Indicator based teaching-learning:

Teachers use evidence based teaching-learning. This ultimately and positively affects the learning style of students and generates practice of evidence based teaching-learning. A teacher who uses evidence based learning approach in teaching-learning must form and apply questions in front of the students, identify and bridge the gap and specify the strength of evidence in support of solutions to the problems provided. Such type of teachers require qualities like high order thinking skills, good listening skills, willingness and enthusiasm to foster overall development of students.

Effective teachers:

Effective teachers are highly self-motivated, enthusiastic, committed and are always assessable to students, parents and teaching tools. 'Able', 'Available' and 'Affordable' are the three 'A' principles followed by good and effective teachers. Such types of teachers are sensitive to the need of students to develop competent citizen of society. To them fit to such roles one need to identify the key areas like concern for students, academic career, true professional, personal and administration. Successful teachers are perceived as creative and students are dependable on them from the start of their interaction. The essential elements to make their role effective are good listening capacity and enough trust worthiness to handle the confidential information appropriately.

Relationship building:

Students-teachers relationships in education are critical in achieving favourable learning outcomes. Emotion is a key element I learners retention of knowledge, students behavior and conceptualization of phenomena. Teacher – student relationship has an impact on learning outcomes. Relationships are the key soul of experience, learners draw upon when they find in the role in future. Students' network relationship during school has impact on professional behavior and choice of learners in long term. Hence the roles of teachers are the phenomenal. a teacher is a friend, guide, advocate, educators and all role in one. In nutshell ideal teachers is the one who leaves a lasting impression.

Conclusion:

Teachers have a fundamental role in teaching-learning and play a substantial role in conducting pedagogical research. Students are the first and an important step in improving classroom instructional practices, assessment of educational programmes and generalities and testing educational theories. These paradigms will ultimately shape the quality of education and life in the long term.

Experience provides good judgment and experience comes from bad judgment. The science and art of teaching is a continuous improvement process. Teachers are just more than a cocktail recipe of stereotypical skills. It is the essence of being a teacher at all levels. A good teacher plays an effective role to facilitate and train students to set goals and policies, comprises of values, ethics, morals with education to guide them towards their goals. Teachers have a social contract to educate the best citizen and their good teaching skills should be cherished, encouraged and nurtured.

- The passion and enthusiasm is the most valuable asset but not tangible. The love for teaching and passion for learning brings several laurels.
- School is the best place to demonstrate humanity and passionate studies. Teachers may demonstrate.
- The passionate teaching is filled with enthusiasm and focus on implementing innovative strategies to improve teaching-learning.
- Teachers must be fully committed to each student and activate each student's individual potential and must be ready to help in student learning.
- Teachers make great change in our lives. Brief and vigorous actions make our inner values and bewitch us.
- Passionate teachers contribute positively on students' academic achievement and holistic development.
- There is a strong correlation between passionate teaching and effective learning.
- Commitment is the science of adherence, a key element that influences the learning process of the students.

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