

LET Programme Reflective Journal

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I am delighted to be the event organizer of iCare programme. Although organizing Science-Learning activities for Secondary School students was challenging, the process of preparing events and communicating with students had given me so much fun. With the blend of bitter and sweets, I really enjoyed the time spent during the programme.

When I first got in touch with this programme, I realized that there were numerous of challenging points. Firstly, what I think the most challenging part in this programme is the way to catch the attention of students. In ice-breaking games, we should think of some games that can engage students' interest at the same time allow us to take part in it. We had to show our passion and enthusiasm on science as to arouse students' curiosity. The way of communication with students and presenting skills were not taught in our daily courses, hence we need to think of our own ways to solve the problems, and this made us feel frustrated to certain extent. Despite the difficulties come across, our helpers were working together as a team and brought out an upbeat atmosphere during the ice-breaking games. Through ice-breaking games, the distance between helpers and students drew near and trust was building up.

Another memorable time was when I was the first time to do demonstration of chemistry experiment in front of the whole class, I was quite nervous and I was afraid that the students could not understand what I was talking about. Luckily with the encouragement of teachers, I relaxed and carried on to explain the experiment theory to students. After I had presented, they really got high on the experiment and showing smiles on their face. This experience gave me a great acknowledgement and it increased my level of confidence.

Other than organizing events to secondary school students, I also participated in *Basic Training for New Science Teachers* conducted by Independent Learning Centre. The workshop on that day allowed me to have a clear idea on “what is good teaching”. Good teaching includes five components: enthusiasm of teacher, good problem solving skills, academic knowledge, understanding of students and good time management during lessons. Preparation work of teachers is of tremendously high. In order to make the lesson fruitful within one hour lesson, teachers need to fully make good use of lessons’ time and deliver the best to students. The teaching style such as grouping, self-learning and engaging in games can help the lesson run smoothly and interestingly. Also, the teaching materials should be well organized as well as the teaching schedule of curriculum. I really appreciate the hard work of teachers, as providing a good quality of education is by

no means easy. Although educating and cultivating student is a challenging job, I would like to dedicate my time to help students in solving academic difficulties as well as building up their confidence through education in the future. As the private tutor, I was impressed by this workshop and I could really apply what I have learnt during my teaching. This was a treasurable lesson.

LET programme is meaningful as it can provide a platform for University students to explore their potential and provide opportunities for us to participate in our society wholeheartedly. I understand that learning is not only limited to our major study, but to our society. Some “soft skills” such as communication skills, time management skills, presentation skills and problem solving skills are required when you are in workplace. Admittedly, our academic knowledge may fade after years; however, these soft skills belong to you forever if you can really excel in them. Through learning outside lessons, I can experience more. Exchanging ideas with people at different ages can bring me more fresh ideas and now I realized that I can look at different angles when I do certain things. I enjoy this kind of learning, as there are no tests and exams pressurize you. Learning can be fun, as long as you paid your effort in the progress.