

Reading, Writing and Arithmetic

The folklorist Kunio Yanagida said that the most important things in life are to be able to read a newspaper, write a letter and do the shopping. When I am involved in classroom research, I tend to link reading, writing and arithmetic in real life to classroom development.

"Reading" generally means reciting and understanding texts. Teachers plan their lessons by reading how children interact with the material and how they respond to it. In the classroom, teachers read children's facial expressions and emotional changes. All of these methods have something in common in that they both involve reading the child's mind, as it were. Here, teachers need to be observant, insightful and able to understand children.

"Writing" is the process of notating letters and sentences. An important part of the writing process for the teacher is the preparation of the lesson plan and the recording of the lesson. In order to write, it is essential to have the ability to structure and organise lessons, as well as to study the teaching materials. Writing helps to visualise the lesson and to share it with colleagues.

Writing on the board is an important part of a teacher's job. It is said that you can understand a class by looking at the board. The board is another teaching tool. The function of the board depends on the teacher's ability to write. It is important to develop the ability to write in a structured way so that children can think and understand.

The word "arithmetic" means calculation. Calculation also means to estimate or predict. Calculating in the classroom is like playing Go or Shogi, where you have to think about what you are going to do before you do it. If I ask a question like this, the child will answer in this way. Then we do this. And then we'll take it in this direction. A well-calculated lesson is one in which the teacher's intention is to read the child.

"Reading, writing, and arithmetic" are the foundations of teaching. In the words of Kunio Yanagida: "To be able to read the child's mind, to write a lesson plan and to calculate the future course of the lesson". In other words, these three fundamentals are the key to improving teaching skills.

As online classes continue, it has become more difficult to read children's facial expressions and emotional changes during the class. Now is the time for parents to get involved and help their children with their homework and lessons. This is your chance to communicate with your children and understand them.