

A Briefer on Bawat Isa Makakabasa

The Challenge

Based on World Bank estimates, as many as 91 percent of children in the Philippines at late primary age “are not proficient in reading.”

‘Learning deprived’ -- The World Bank considers schoolchildren who are unable to reach minimum proficiency levels in reading tests to be “learning deprived.”

“All children should be able to read by age 10,” it said.

THE COUNTRY’s so-called learning poverty could spur a workforce crisis if not resolved soon (Business World Online, August 28,2022).

The Philippines participated in Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) for the first time in 2018, and came in last place among 79 participating countries and economies in reading, and second to last place in science and mathematics.

The Approach

The need to develop independent readers with fluency and comprehension--a Reading Program “**Bawat Isa Makakabasa**” is hereby proposed.

Reading proficiency entails two things: (1) Decoding skills that enable a learner to read a text, and (2) meaning-making (making sense of what is being read) or comprehension skills that enable a learner to understand, engage, and get involved with a piece of text (reflect and analyze) and develop the ability to respond with detailed and logical reasoning.

“Bawat Isa Makakabasa”

A research-based reading program designed to support the call for action to increase the reading proficiency of our Filipino students.

Supplementary learning resources were selected and organized to progressively improve the reading and comprehension skillset, and create a routine, and culture of reading.

- A reading program for all ages in a progressive approach.
- Kinder to Professional Learners may avail the program.

***A reading literacy program that supports non-mastery of the elements of reading, presence of learners-at-risk, and no culture of reading.

What we offer > Reading Program Inclusions:

1. Reading Program via a Learning Management System (LMS)
2. Pre- Assessment to identify the learner’s reading stage (Stages 1 to 6)
3. Reading Lessons and Activities for 3 months = 12 lessons per month in 3 months (36 lessons for 3 months per learner, 20 minutes per reading session to develop interest until it becomes a routine)
4. Routine and Professional Comprehensive Support for 3 months
5. Training Development for the Facilitators in 3 months (while running the program)
6. Post- Assessment to gauge learner’s reading proficiency progress
7. Research Data (Program Completion Report)

Standardized proficiency classification aligned with the CEFR and BULATS

Proficiency Level

CEFR - Common European Framework of Reference

BULATS - Business Language Testing Service

- Proficient (C2): 90-100%
- **Advanced (C1): 75% to 89% -- Part of the GOAL**
- Upper Intermediate (B2): 60% to 74%
- Intermediate (B1): 40-59%
- Elementary (A2): 20-39%
- Beginner (A1): 0-19%

The Steps Forward

Respond to Department of Education's Hamon: Bawat Bata Bumabasa.

Intensify the advocacy for reading and pledging commitment to make every learner an independent reader at his or her age level.

Align priorities towards the promotion of the culture of reading as a key step in closing the achievement gaps.

Let us also reiterate the need to implement Republic Act 8047, or the "Book Publishing Industry Development Act," which mandates the creation of a public library in the country's 1,600 towns and cities. Some public-school libraries in far-flung areas do not even have school libraries. The creation of a public library in the heart of the town can help alleviate this difficult condition. The alternative is an ignorant population, which does not bode well for the nation. (The Manila Times, January 24, 2023).

PUBLIC LIBRARY with a Reading Program would be a big help for learners in the community.

Let us collaborate in establishing Municipal Libraries and Barangay Reading Centers (RA 7743) where a Reading Program is accessible to all learners of all ages.

Let us collaborate in supporting IP learners so that they may also be able to hone their reading proficiency.

October 08, 2021 – The Department of Education is serving **2.529 million** IP learners in 42,176 public schools around the Philippines in the first decade of the Indigenous Peoples Education (IPed) Program, according to the agency's Indigenous Peoples Education Office (IPsEO).

Let us move one step at a time-- One Filipino learner with quality reading and comprehension output at a time. Until we reach as many learners equipped with the reading skillset in all regions of the Philippines, transforming oneself and others.

Let us all aim to be a part of the solution.

Thank you.

*~Bawat Isa Makakabasa Team
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