"TEACHING AND LEARNING: A TRANSFORMATIVE NSTP LTS EXPERIENCE"

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Agapito, David Ryan E.

Alcazar, John Carlo F.

Ramada, John Abraham R.

Trinidad, Rachelle D.

Villahermosa, Ailyn E.

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NARRATIVE REPORT IN NSTP - LITERACY TRAINING SERVICE

The National Service Training Program (NSTP) is a comprehensive initiative mandated by Republic Act 9163, designed to cultivate civic responsibility, national consciousness, and community engagement among Filipino youth. The program offers three components: the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC), Civic Welfare Training Service (CWTS), and the Literacy Training Service (LTS). This narrative report focuses on the Literacy Training Service, which plays a crucial role in addressing educational inequalities by preparing college students to become effective literacy advocates and educators.

NSTP-LTS aims to address pressing issues such as illiteracy and lack of educational opportunities, especially in underprivileged communities. Through this component, student participants engage in various activities to promote basic literacy and numeracy skills among children and out-of-school youth. By developing innovative and impactful teaching methods, LTS participants help lay the foundation for lifelong learning among their students, empowering them to reach their full potential.

This report provides a detailed account of the experiences and insights gained throughout the NSTP-LTS program. It covers the initial orientation sessions, workshops on educational strategies, lesson planning, and the actual teaching experiences within the community. The narrative will highlight not only the rewarding moments of teaching but also the obstacles encountered, such as adjusting to different learning styles, managing limited resources, and fostering an engaging learning environment. Each challenge provided a valuable opportunity for personal and professional growth, deepening our understanding of community service and the importance of inclusive education.

Moreover, the report reflects on the program's transformative impact on the participants. Beyond teaching literacy, NSTP-LTS instilled in us a deeper appreciation for volunteerism, resilience, and cultural sensitivity. It demonstrated how education can be a powerful tool for social change and inspired us to be proactive in contributing to the welfare of our fellow citizens. This narrative serves as a testament to the effectiveness and significance of NSTP-LTS in shaping socially responsible individuals equipped with the skills and compassion necessary to uplift the nation.

We arrived at the Bernardo Daycare Center before 8:30 in the morning. When we got there, some children were already present. While waiting for the other kids to arrive, Teacher Lyn oriented us on how to conduct our teaching session effectively. She explained various techniques to capture the children's attention, such as using songs, visual aids, and interactive activities. After that, we prepared the materials we would be using, including visual aids, activity sheets, and coloring materials. Little by little, more children arrived with their parents, and the classroom gradually became more lively and energetic. Once everyone was present, we started the class.

We began the day with a prayer led by Teacher Lyn, followed by the singing of the national anthem, *Lupang Hinirang*. Afterward, we had a fun singing and dancing session to warm up the children. It was heartwarming to see how much they enjoyed it, with bright smiles and cheerful laughter filling the room. We then had a short sharing session, where the kids excitedly answered questions we had prepared. Their eagerness to participate was delightful, and it created a lively and engaging atmosphere.

We then transitioned to teaching the letter E, using visual aids and hands-on examples to make the lesson more engaging. After explaining the letter, we had a storytelling session. We gathered the children and read an animated and engaging story,

using different voices and expressions to keep them captivated. The kids were fascinated, and some even gasped or laughed at certain parts of the story. We encouraged them to share their thoughts, and it was wonderful to hear them enthusiastically express their favorite parts of the tale.

Next, we had a coloring activity where the children colored an eggplant. They were focused and enjoyed being creative with their coloring. We assisted them as needed and admired their colorful work. Once they finished, we helped them wash their hands to teach good hygiene habits. Finally, we distributed the snacks we had prepared, making sure each child received their share. It was a rewarding experience seeing the kids happily munching on their snacks, their energy and joy making the whole morning feel fulfilling.

One significant realization I had during the teaching session was how crucial it is to be adaptable and patient when working with young children. Their attention spans are short, and keeping them engaged requires a combination of energy, creativity, and flexibility. I also learned that small things, like using engaging visuals, fun songs, or different voice tones during storytelling, can make a big difference in capturing and maintaining their interest.

A challenge we faced was managing the children's varying energy levels. Some were highly active and excited, making it difficult to keep the class organized, while others were more reserved and needed extra encouragement to participate. Balancing these differences required a lot of effort and quick thinking. Another challenge was ensuring that each child felt included and heard, especially during the sharing and question-and-answer portions, since some children were more eager to respond than others.

Additionally, assisting every child during the hands-on activities, such as coloring and washing hands was a bit overwhelming. We had to move quickly to help everyone

while making sure each child understood what they were doing. Despite these challenges, the joy and enthusiasm of the kids made all the hard work worthwhile, and the experience taught me valuable lessons about patience, communication, and the importance of creating an engaging learning environment.

In summary, the NSTP-LTS experience at Bernardo Daycare Center was both rewarding and enlightening. We engaged in a variety of activities to teach young children, including singing, dancing, storytelling, and hands-on tasks like coloring. These methods helped make learning exciting and fun, keeping the children engaged and joyful. A major realization from this experience was the importance of adaptability and patience, as maintaining the kids' attention required energy and creativity.

Challenges included managing the children's different energy levels and ensuring that everyone felt included. Assisting every child during activities, like washing hands and coloring, was also demanding, but these obstacles provided opportunities for personal growth. The experience reinforced the significance of effective communication, flexibility, and creating a lively and inclusive learning environment. Ultimately, the smiles and enthusiasm of the children made all the hard work worthwhile, reminding us of the impact of education and the power of volunteerism in shaping young minds.

DOCUMENTATIONS:









