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For instance, the old style of abacus in the early days had two rows of beads called “upper beads” (upper deck), and five rows of “lower beads” (lower deck). The modern abacus has one row of beads on the upper deck, and four rows on the lower deck. The traditional single-handed method has been changed to “Two-handed Abacus Manipulation.” Using both hands is 33.33% faster than using a single hand to calculate on the abacus. It can be expected that the field of abacus arithmetic will still continue to develop and make progress, which is worth being concerned about and also paying attention to.

Launching the right brain revolution through Two-handed Abacus Manipulation

Have you ever watched a favourite children’s cartoon called “Robots Formation?” The effect of Two-handed Abacus Manipulation is as amazing as robots conducting a “formation” in order to multiply their powers. For example, Tai Chiang Ching’s first seed student, Su Wan-ting, had been learning abacus mental arithmetic since kindergarten. She had only learned for one year and eight months before passing the level 9 exam in mental arithmetic. On the other hand, another child, Wang Chi-yang, also passed the level 9 exam in mental arithmetic. These great results inspired Tai to believe in his persistence with the experimental teaching method of “Two-handed Abacus Manipulation”, which had brought such great achievement. What is “Two-handed Abacus Manipulation?” In short, it is using both hands to move the beads of the abacus to do the calculation, just like playing the piano or typing on a keyboard using both hands. Using that method, both sides of the brain can be stimulated to achieve a harmonious frequency.

Based on his extensive teaching experience, Tai found that using both hands to manipulate the abacus was indeed faster than just using a single hand. That is because using both hands can stimulate the left and right sides of the brain. Taking creative songwriting as an example, using both hands to accelerate the interaction of both

sides of the brain and create a more rhythmic melody using just one hand leads to a more diverse wisdom of “dynamic” life.

From the medical point of view, when a human’s neural sensory system is stimulated interactively, the left hand stimulates the right brain, and the right hand stimulates the left-brain.

These complicated moves stimulate peripheral nerve function, which is equivalent to stimulating the brain. It does not only activate the function of brain cells to prevent degradation, but also helps with intellectual development.

The emphasised function of most systematic teaching courses only utilises the left-brain, which is responsible for logic, thinking, memory, classification, language, text, calculations, analysis, and so on. The right brain is responsible for capacity, including emotion, intuition, attitude, colour, image, a feeling of space, music, rhythm, dance, physical coordination and creativity.

Through the action of “playing” the abacus, our senses are stimulated. For example, children’s visual, tactile and auditory abilities and muscles will move in coordination (to reach some sort of frequency rhythm). Meanwhile, the function of logical thinking and calculation for the left-brain is developed, as is the function of intuition, colour, visual, space, and so on for the right brain. In our society, which focuses on logical thinking, we often use the left-brain to process a problem but seldom use the right brain. In that case, we seldom allow both the left and right brain to communicate messages. In order to stimulate both the left and right brain, “Two-handed Abacus Manipulation” utilises the principle of “using both left and right brain” to transmit information to coordinate hand movements and enhance brain development, in order to empower children’s intellectual potential, so that they can think quicker, have a stronger memory, and concentrate better. This is what we have often called the “combined use of hands and brain” and the “spiritual mind,” thus showing that there’s a very close relationship between “the hands and the brain.”