

## 启发儿童智慧的奥秘36

With the numerous ways in absorbing new information, the best method is by forming the habit of reading.

Other than reading the newspaper every day, an abacus and mental arithmetic educator ought to spare an hour or two reading books that are knowledge-oriented, educational and inspirational, especially professional books related to abacus and mental arithmetic. In addition, he or she should take notes, remember the important points by heart and continue to do so and in time become an expert or authority in the industry. But which books should be read? I think that anything in the fields of children's psychology, behaviorism, education, business management and even marketing ought to be on the reading list.

Second, uses new teaching materials and methods

Most students of abacus and mental arithmetic are kindergarteners or elementary school children. During this period of time, they are most curious and have the best reflexes and therefore also adapt better to and absorb the most out of their surroundings. However, students in this age range usually have difficulty concentrating; therefore teachers must be particularly loving and patient. Thus, the most important thing about which an abacus and mental arithmetic teacher should be concerned is knowing how to inspire children's interest in abacus and mental arithmetic so that they can study diligently and obtain good results.

A professional abacus and mental arithmetic teacher should not only possess the ability to identify good teaching materials but also learn and research novel teaching methods. If teachers can carefully observe students' level and learning ability and pick teaching materials accordingly, then pair them with novel teaching methods, such as game activities, while constantly paying attention to the atmosphere of the class, it would help increase students' learning interest and effectiveness. Unfortunately, suitable teaching materials and novel teaching methods aren't easy to obtain, but can only be found through careful searching, observation, research or by asking industry experts.

Third, far-reaching goals and management capabilities

The old saying goes, "think before you act, and have a well-thought out plan." For anything you do, if you have a goal and a plan, you should follow your plans step by step for success. Take a country for example. To become wealthy, a country not only needs a sound political system, but also far-reaching goals and detailed construction plans. Therefore, before the beginning of a new year, every country needs to draw up plans and budgets to be implemented by different departments. When the year ends, it also needs to settle accounts, audit, track and give appraisals to

review its gains and losses as a reference for next year's policy administration. Individuals are like countries. To excel in a certain area, one must first have far-reaching goals, then make concrete plans and implement accordingly.

The same reasoning applies in the abacus and mental arithmetic industry. To excel in this field, you must be able to evaluate your own capability, energy and financial ability and draw up short-, mid- and long-term goals accordingly. After careful evaluation and planning, draw up your future direction of development and time table and constantly review and make improvements while you work hard to reach your ideals. In particular, for someone who is new to the field, setting goals is even more important. In the short-term, you may want to focus on self-training to increase knowledge and teaching experience. In the mid-term, you may want to work on researching teaching materials and teaching methods to become an outstanding teacher. In the long-term, you may want to set the goal of making abacus and mental arithmetic your lifetime career, and use your own experience and marketing opportunities, as well as further research to make a name for yourself. In terms of management capability, you may wish to build public relationships, know how to manage time, pay attention to methodology and efficiency as well as cost and benefit analysis. In such ways, not only will you yield twice the result with half the effort, you will also reach your goals sooner.