

## 启发儿童智慧的奥秘37

Fourth, uses time wisely to absorb new knowledge

In a society characterized by fast advancements in modern technology and highly developed industry and commerce, competition is becoming increasingly fierce. Anyone who is unable to absorb new knowledge as technology advances not only falls behind but faces the possibility of being forsaken by society.

Not long ago, I read about an automobile worker in Detroit, U.S.A. He has been working in an auto shop since he was 18 years old and has been working there for 35 years. But recently, due to economic downturn in the U.S. and the massive import of Japanese cars, many American car manufacturers were forced to lay off employees or close down. This auto worker's company also closed down, making him unemployed. However, his age and lack of specialized skill made it hard to move to a different industry and to make a living. All of a sudden, his life became difficult. This tragic scene is evidence of the cruelty of "natural selection" in modern society.

Although abacus and mental arithmetic may not be in as much recession or be as competitive as the American auto industry, the incident still serves as a cautionary tale for me. Everyone knows how to strive for improvement and make better use of time, but only a few can actually do it.

Actually, in our daily life, we unknowingly waste much of our precious time. For example, modern city people spend at least five hundred to a thousand hours per year driving or commuting to and from work. Many people are bored or vexed while they commute, and unknowingly waste time, which is a shame. If we understood the value of time and knew how to make better use of it, then taking some time and effort to plan our time and do something beneficial (such as listening to educational, knowledge-oriented or professional shows or tapes) would make commuting not seem boring or vexing, but instead a great time for absorbing new knowledge.

Fifth, maintains a positive, pro-active spirit

Life isn't a bed of roses. Setbacks and failures in any career you pursue are unavoidable, but there is no need to be afraid. What's important is to learn from your failures and try over and over again to strive toward success. I think of abacus and mental arithmetic teachers as salespeople because both need to be articulate, amiable and sincere. As for the difference between the two, an abacus and mental arithmetic teacher sells a professional skill to students, parents and their bosses. These three parties greatly affect the future of an abacus and mental

arithmetic teacher; therefore, his or her services need to satisfy students, parents and bosses at the same time.

First, he or she needs to show professional skill so that students are willing to be taught. Next, he or she needs to satisfy parents with the teaching results to continue teaching their children. Finally, he or she needs to show the boss his or her capability and loyalty so that the boss can feel confident and secure.

To qualify and become a competent abacus and mental arithmetic teacher, it is also important to constantly be positive and pro-active because only with an optimistic attitude, can one be friendly and amiable with people; and only by being pro-active, can one not fear setbacks and failures but continue to work hard and move forward.

Sixth, exercises regularly to stay healthy

To stay healthy, other than relying on a balanced diet, it is also important to make a habit of exercising.