

The Fun Learning Times

FUN LEARNERS' SCHOOL LLP

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Appreciate Your Child

"All children are born geniuses; 9,999 out of every 10,000 are simply, inadvertently, degeniusized by grownups". (Buckminster Fuller, American visionary and inventor)

In the book "Appreciating Your Child", the author Zhou Hong beautifully validates the above belief through his arduous journey in educating his child.

Zhou Hong's daughter was born with partial deafness. A raging fever at 18 months old left her totally deaf in both ears. Zhou Hong's unconditional love for her daughter led him to seek effective ways to educate his daughter. As the title of the book suggests, what he did was basically to appreciate his child, provide her with love, and the space for her spirit to stretch and grow.

Under his guidance, her daughter made tremendous progress and at the age of 16, became China's first hearing-impaired undergraduate.

Here are extracts from the book:

I remember when Ting Ting encountered Mathematics sums for the first time when she was seven. Once, she only managed to answer one question out of a possible 10 correctly. Rather than lashing out at her, the first thought which flashed through my mind was of the American movie "Conrack". I thought of the outstanding young, white, Caucasian teacher in the movie and of what he said to an Asian-American student, who was a victim of racial discrimination.

"Child, I believe that you are the best kid in the world, an upright and honest young man! Do not be afraid, count carefully and tell me, how many fin-

gers do I have on this hand?"

The child looked up slowly; his cheeks flushed a deep crimson. He stared at the five fingers on his teacher's hand and after a long while, finally mustered the courage and mumbled meekly, "Three".

"That's wonderful, you are just fabulous! You've only counted two less fingers!"

Even though Ting Ting only managed one correct answer, my thoughts were of her first shaky steps when she just started learning to walk and my own exultation over her achievement; I also remembered the first time she called out to me and how I was moved to tears. Therefore, this was what I said to her.

"It is simply unbelievable, attempting such a difficult question at such a young age. And you actually got one answer right on the first try," I said sincerely.

Ting Ting's confidence was boosted by my assurance. It was as if she had sprouted wings and was flying freely in the skies of mathematical knowledge. In just three years, she had already successfully completed a six-year primary school mathematics course, all in a relaxed and happy environment.

Appreciating Your Child by Zhou Hong is translated from Chinese into English. It is available at Popular Book Stores.

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Our Teaching Philosophy

We strongly believe every student's potential can be maximised. At Fun Learners' School, our primary mission is to provide each



& every student the patience & attention they deserve. With holistic teaching methods & active spontaneity, we strive to breathe life into the textbooks by drawing relevance to the world we live in, thereby seeding & inspiring the love of learning in every young mind.

Cont'd — Appreciate your child



About the writer

Mrs Tan Chew Ling is an experienced ex-school teacher who has taught English in a Secondary school before she left MOE to conduct her own English tuition and enrichment classes. Her enrichment classes include Mind Map workshops. Apart from teaching children, she also teaches Creative Writing and the Cambridge International Diploma in Education to Teachers and Trainers.

A teacher who loves teaching, learning and learners, she believes that her role as a teacher is to illumine the minds of the children and ignite their joy of learning, inspiring them to be independent, self-motivated learners.

There will be upcoming Primary 2, 3, 4 & 5 English

classes by Mrs Tan Chew Ling in July 2007. Registration is now open.

**Preview for
parents/students:
Sunday, 3rd June 2007, 1pm
@ Fun Learners' School**

Call to register now.
See you there!

