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POSITIVE PERCEPTION: A GLANCE TOWARDS POSITIVE CHANGE

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ABSTRACT

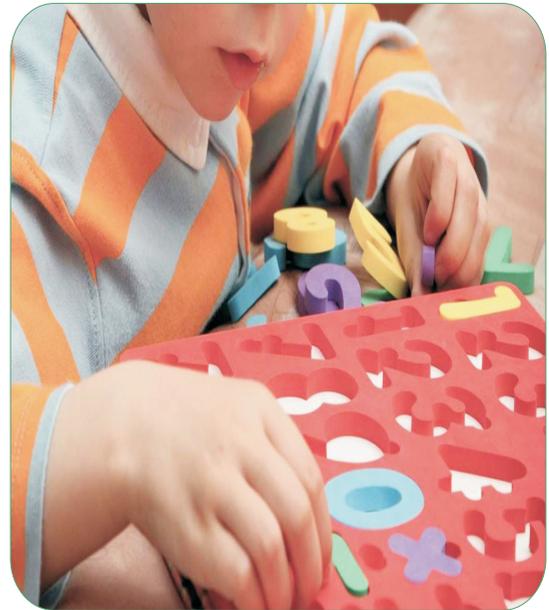
It is a request for you as parent. Please change Aryan's school" Teacher narrated this sentence to the parents during individual interaction. The parents were numbed after hearing her words. Aryan's parents took this interaction casually but from inside they had got collapsed, nervous and were feeling stressed. The continuous thought started hindering them was that, "Why only my child?" They were under confusion and thought, "What decision they should take???"

KEYWORDS :Positive Perception ,Positive Change , socialized and intelligent.

INTRODUCTION

Teacher said "Aryan is a good boy otherwise socialized and intelligent. But when it comes to writing, it becomes difficult for us to read his hand writing." His handwriting is poor. When we ask him orally he can answer well but we find it too difficult to read his hand writing. You cannot read a single word written by him. His handwriting looks untidy and shabby. The teacher showed his books to his parents and they were speechless.

There were list of complaints delivered by the class teacher to the parents about his writing. Parents with locked hands were listening to her talk. She conveyed that his handwriting is terrible. The letters are not at all readable and it is difficult to make them out. There is no proper space between two letters, within word and between two words. He is unaware to make difference when to put capital letters and they may appear in the middle of the word (for example 'ruNing, beaUtiful'). The letters are not written on a straight line some are straight, others are of differing. The



parents gave a thought after some days and transferred him to the other school. There also the same areas were again identified but here he was been referred to a Remedial Teacher for remediation and School Counselor for Parents Counselling. The approach of the Principal was very positive in the new school whereas in she was amazed with his level of knowledge and style of expression. Aryan was very creative thinking child and passionate about playing the instruments. He used to think every time out of the box. Actually the Principal use to interact with Aryan with a different perspective and she had developed different association with him. The Class teacher, Remedial teacher, his classmates, Occupational Therapist and School Counselor had helped him to grow in better way.

He went through LD assessment test, then a writer was been allotted to

him to write his paper. During informal assessment, Remedial teacher looked the areas where he was weak in i.e. writing speed was slow, he use to say the words aloud while writing. His grip of holding pencil was different. It was seen that he fits in the profile of Dysgraphia. Remedial teacher conveyed positively that “It can be helped and he will certainly improve his skills”. With remediation he improved his certain skills and even school granted him concession in the form of writer.

Aryan then completed his education in M.A and pursued his training in instrumentation. Recently he is training the children in instrumentation. When people ask him to share his success story, he narrates that everything was fine with me only parents and teacher find me out of the box each and every time.

Indeed after hearing to this success story, we all would wonder that the boy Aryan has changed our perspective towards education and majorly towards Learning Disorders. This could be a thought that every child must be thinking to convey their parents be a child with learning disorders or may not be with it that, “Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn” A real salute to Aryan’s parents as without their support and motivation, he wouldn’t have achieved the present success. Therefore child’s connectivity is a support system for him or her to grow in a better way. Connectivity means all the people who are actually related with child. In more appropriate terms the stake holders connected with him or her such as Parents, School Authorities, Class Teacher or Subject Teachers, Remedial Teacher, School Counselor, Child Psychologist, Concerned Therapist, and Relatives such as Grandparents and Uncle - Aunties. Parents are an important factor for every child to grow with developmental domains. Parents Perspective is an integral part for the child with Learning Disorders to enhance improvement in them. It gave me a thought as a School Counselor that, “Better understanding creates better knowledge that helps the child to deal in better ways.....”

Many of them are actually unaware about the term Learning Disorders (LD). Mostly the difference between the Learning Difficulties and Learning Disabilities is taken as an overlapping concept. As a Counselor, it has been observed that different parents perceive the Learning Problems in different way. Some parents come to us directly with a statement that, “My Child is Dyslexic and now what we can do?” whereas in certain parents have denial to accept that their child may have learning issues rather they start directly blaming a child either as lazy child or doesn’t want to do. Here the role of the Counselor or Psychologist is very important to make the parents understand about the Learning Problems. So let us go through a basic concept of Learning Disorders through this write up....

Learning Disorders is an inability to learn at the age appropriate academic level. It can be difficulties in listening, reading, writing, understanding, spelling, sounds, comprehension and or Mathematics. Children with Learning Disorders may find it difficult to reach their potentials inspite of average intelligence. Learning Disorders can broadly divide into three categories:

1. Learning Differences – Differences in teaching methods or the challenges of learning in a non – native language may reduce children’s ability to learn and to succeed academically.
2. Learning Difficulties –The term “Learning Difficulties” refers to problems with reading or writing caused by a variety of factors, including emotional, psychological or physiological barriers that affect language processing or writing.
3. Learning Disabilities – Significant difficulties in the acquisition and use of listening, speaking, reading, writing, reasoning, and mathematical abilities. Learning Disabilities are categorized as:

- a. Dyslexia- Difficulties in Reading
- b. Dysgraphia – Difficulties in Writing
- c. Dyscalculia – Difficulties in Mathematics

d. Dyspraxia – Difficulty in motor coordination.

Recently Specific Learning Disability is term widely used in today's scenario. A child who has sever discrepancy between achievement and intellectual ability in one or more area such as Oral expression, Listening comprehension, Written expression, Basic reading skills, Reading comprehension, Mathematical calculation and Mathematical reasoning.

Actually general public still are not aware about Learning Disorders and even major focus of education is equal to academics more over towards academic performance. But education is wide concept which needs to be conveyed to the parents in an appropriate manner. When an individual has to describe education, there are speechless. Learning is considered as learning academic chapters, lessons, poems and sums, etc... But the appropriate relations of learning syllabus and its use in daily life need to be given a thought. Actually, children do not know the purpose of study and somewhere it need to inbuilt in children. Whatever we do has purpose and once the children understand the same. It will become easier to direct the child and create better awareness about compulsory education.

We all learn things in different manner so no two children will have same learning style. Once we understand their learning style, then it certainly becomes easier to learn and recollect things in better manner. There are seven learning styles

1. Verbal (linguistic): You prefer using words, both in speech and writing.
2. Physical (kinesthetic): You prefer using your body, hands and sense of touch.
3. Logical (mathematical): You prefer using logic, reasoning and systems.
4. Social (interpersonal): You prefer to learn in groups or with other people.
5. Solitary (intrapersonal): You prefer to work alone and use self-study.
6. Visual (spatial): You prefer using pictures, images, and spatial understanding.
7. Aural (auditory-musical): You prefer using sound and music.

Mostly used learning styles are:

1. Visual – Children can use visual objects such as graphs, charts, pictures, and seeing information. They can read body language well and has a good perception of aesthetics. He or she will able to memorize and recall information. Even tends to remember things that are written down and learns better in lectures by watching them

2. Auditory – They can retain information through hearing and speaking. He or she may prefer to be told how to do things and then summarizes the main points out loud to help with memorization. Eventually can learn different aspects of speaking and often can have talents in music and may concentrate better with soft music playing in the background.

3. Kinesthetic – He or she likes to use the hands-on approach to learn new material and may be generally good in math and science. They would rather prefer to demonstrate how to do something rather than verbally explain it. Usually can prefer group work more than others.

If we could understand Learning Style of Learning Disorder child and even use the above learning styles cohesively, it will help a child to grow in a better ways. Using the different learning styles in the remediation will help them to improve their skills.

The very important part that we had observed in the above story was remedial. For remediation, it is essential to have an Individualized Education Plan i.e. IEP. A thought needs to be given

about purpose of remediation and ways it will help a child. Remediation is a process of intervention to reduce the severity of a Learning deficit, to such a degree that the deficit no longer constitutes an obstacle to quality of life. In Aryan's story, we have seen that remediation helped him to improve his writing skill to some extent. It could be a raised question that even after remediation why Aryan required a writer for writing his exam papers. So no single method will work for every problem. A child with learning disorders may need help from experts according to his problem such as therapist, special educators, psychologist and psychiatrist at times. A helping hand from all sides would help a child in better means. In remediation, the most important task is to have Individualized Education Plan. As we all know that without planning and organizing, we cannot step into the implementation process. So a separate plan is important for each Learning Disorder child in unique way considering their assessment report may be it could be formal or informal. There should be set goals that could be on short term and long term basis. This would help many such children like Aryan in further process.

Another classical story that is closed our heart and touched to thousand of peoples mind is from Movie "Taare Jameen Par". The child Ishan Awashti had shown remarkable changes in him when he met his art teacher. It was an alarm for all of us that we should have positive attitude towards these children which will indeed help them to grow in better way.

Overall during the research, The researcher observed that positive perception of parents enhances improved academic performance in the children 47 percent parents have seen considerable changes and 40 percent of parents have seen some progress in their child's performance. If we see that there are 5 percent chances of having children with Learning Problems in each classroom set up. Awareness is important factor to have positive perception of parents. Better awareness creates better perception. Remediation could be source to help the child to improve the performance and even source for parents to understand the issue hindering the child along with that required efforts that needs to be taken.

To conclude the article just thought about a quote "Every child is gifted they just unwrap their packages at different times." So parents should believe in their child and give them a space and time to establish themselves better in this cohesive world.

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