

Tutoring 101

How to Tutor the Tutees?

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Develop motivation

In the beginning of this semester, my tutee showed an inadequate passion for learning. The lack of motivation was the main reason that my tutee failed to focus during classes and pay enough attention to his homework. After chatting with him and helping him set some short-term goals, it became easier for me to explain ideas for him since he became willing to know more things. In this case, I learned that before we study, we should first develop enough passion and motivation on what we are doing since they can help us achieve any goal we want.



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Listen to others' suggestions

Being a tutor has helped me reflect on my behaviors as a student. During this semester with my tutee, I have realized the difficulties of teachers when they try to explain something new. My tutee was sometimes stubborn that he followed his own method to solve questions and made mistakes. While this happened, I always provided suggestions or tips to help him understand subtly. This piece of experience reminded me that, after considering comprehensively, I should also follow my professors' and friends' suggestions to avoid wasting time.

How to help tutees stay focused?

Using Rewards

Using rewards can be another effective method. When my tutee realizes that finishing the work earlier can make her get rewards, such as game time, she will be more energetic in learning; therefore, she will be less distracted by the environment.



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Setting a goal

My tutee is easily distracted while doing her reading homework because she does not know how many pages she should read. After I set a specific goal for her, she can obtain more satisfaction by seeing her progress in reading clearly and focus more on it.

Providing with quiet environment

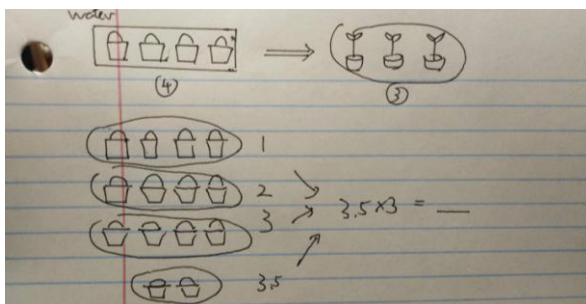
Children are easily distracted because they are curious about the environment, so reducing the attractive factors around them can also be a good solution. For example, I usually tutor my tutee in the quiet corridor rather than the noisy classroom because she is sensitive to other

How to help kids understand?

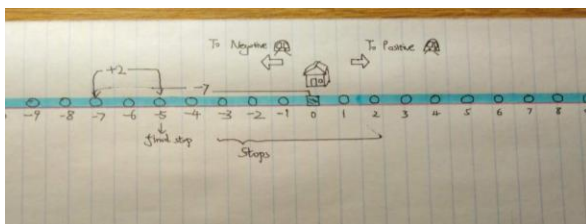
1. Letting them explain what they know about a knowledge point.
2. Having some sample questions for them – practice makes perfect.
3. Writing down “method sheet” for kids and let them memorize it.
4. Trying to visualize the knowledge point in a vivid way.

For example:

· When explaining the question “4 buckets of water is needed for 3 plants, then 14 buckets of water are needed for how many plants”, I visualized the question by this:



· When explaining the concept of negative numbers and how to do adding and subtraction with negative numbers, I visualized the number by a “subway map” while defining the “zero” as “home stop”:

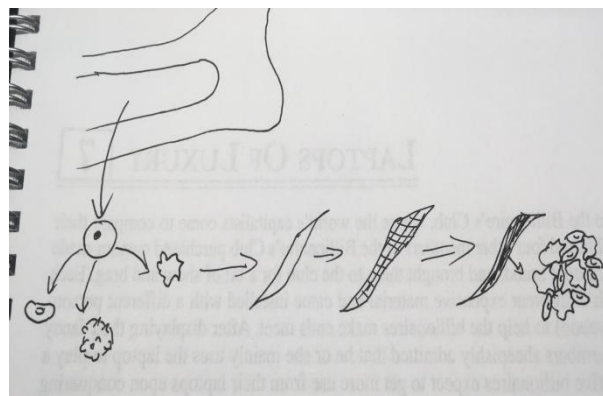


How to build up confidence?

· Give tutee a chance to express themselves. Start talking is always the first step toward the development of their confidence.

· Be a good listener, so you can have a chance to know why the kids are not confident enough.

· Start a conversation with topic they are interested in, because they have something to share.



We have been volunteering in the organization called EVkids. We tutor to help the kids to do their homework.

