Teaching methodologies in Multi-grade Foundation Phase classes

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What is a multi-grade class?

The Multi-grade Education is one of the Department's strategies to provide access to quality education for all school-age children in remote communities where enrolment does not warrant the organization of monograde classes.
Why multi-grade teaching

- Cost-effective
- It helps children, realise their right to education irrespective of rurality
- Promotes cohesiveness, cooperation, strengthen interpersonal skills, values and positive attitudes
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenges</th>
<th>Opportunities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diversity within and between groups</td>
<td>Take advantage of diversity to strengthen personal values and respect for diversity</td>
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<td>Poor time management</td>
<td>Balance time with purposeful multi-tasking</td>
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<td>Ability to keep learners focused</td>
<td>Engage learners meaningfully and allow for cooperative activities to keep them focused on learning</td>
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<td>Isolation</td>
<td>Break your isolation as a multi-grade teacher through networking, functional PLCs, community and community based organizations</td>
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Three Dimensions of Classroom Management

- **Teacher**
  - Planning
  - Classroom control
  - Use of time
  - Delegation of responsibility

- **Classroom**
  - Physical conditions
  - Materials
  - Activities
  - Routines

- **Students**
  - Time on task
  - Behaviour
  - Relationships
  - Responsibilities
Managing a multigrade classroom

When planning consider:
- Lesson outcomes
- Teaching strategies
- Resources
- ICT integration
- Use of time
- Diversity and ability levels
- Learner activities
- Classroom space, routines, roles and responsibilities
- Seating plan

Teacher
- Planning
- Classroom control
- Use of time
- Delegation of responsibility
Managing a multi-grade classroom

Classroom
- Physical conditions
- Materials
- Activities
- Routines

Understanding the classroom space, the desired routines and the resources available

Deciding on the types of teaching strategy and learner activities

Drawing seating plan that promotes teaching strategies, learner activities and routines
Managing a multigrade classroom

Learners
• Time on task
• Behaviour
• Relationships
• Responsibilities

Be responsive towards learners’ learning needs

Provide differentiated and fun-filled learner activities

Allow learners to take responsibility for their own learning through a growth mindset

Create opportunities for learners to build relationships through cooperative learning, information sharing and classroom interactions
Classroom floor plan
Possible Multi-grade Teaching strategies

- Teach all groups together
- Relate learning with daily experience
- Teach one grade while others work independently
- Teach one subject to all grades, at varying levels of difficulty
- Develop peer, cross-age and cross-grade teaching strategies
- Develop activities for non-taught groups
Introducing the Multigrade Toolkit

- Purpose: to assist teachers with planning the cycle of Teaching, learning and Assessment

- It consists of an adapted version of the Annual Teaching Plan (ATP) as well as exemplar lesson plans
Thank you

Questions?