

Learning Gains through Play

KZN SCAVENGER HUNT M8

05 Nov 2015

Despite the afternoon heat, teachers came in prepared with their hats on and comfortable shoes to attend the scavenger hunt module 8. Out of 21 teachers, 15 attended – all schools (4) were represented except Cedara. The workshop was conducted at Thembelihle Primary in Howick.



Module 8 is the scavenger hunt teaching strategy that allows learners to go out of class to have real experience that is related to any subject content area. The template provided for the teachers helps as a basis to design other possible field trip ideas that can be adapted for classroom works. This in a way would enhance learners' learning in a good number of subjects.

At the beginning, teachers were to find their group members using a QR code reader - the activity helped them to get acquainted with using the Quick Mark App as they scanned each



other's QR code given to individuals at the start of the session. It was interesting to observe the collaboration in trying to find where each individual belong. There were four groups consisting of three to four members.

The tempo picked up when it was time to move out and search for different QR codes and activities. All the group members dashed out and could be seen doing all it takes to earn their points – they had lots of fun.



After the 60 minutes had elapsed, three groups were found seated inside the classroom and in one minute one group which consisted of a little older ladies came in running. They didn't want to take a chance to have their points deducted due to lateness.

The score sheet was exchanged by the groups, discussion time kicked in with all group members ready to defend their completed tasks. The incorporation of peer assessment in



the scavenger hunt was a huge strength – it enhanced communication.

Educational issues that accompanies the teaching strategy were brought forward. Later, a discussion and or ideas how it can be applied in class with the little ones was discussed. Teachers were asked to provide practical lesson examples of how they can adapt the strategy with their subjects. At the end scores were announced, position one and two



received prizes.

Overall the session was a great success and very much appreciated by teachers, it actually captured their interest throughout. Educators admitted that if well planned, the scavenger hunt teaching strategy can be implemented and yield much better results on the learning outcomes.

They had first-hand experience how they teaching strategy could broaden their learners' awareness of their surroundings or environment, also deepen their knowledge in a particular learning area. It is hoped that it will be applied in schools and receive even higher popularity from learners.

H. Mfeka