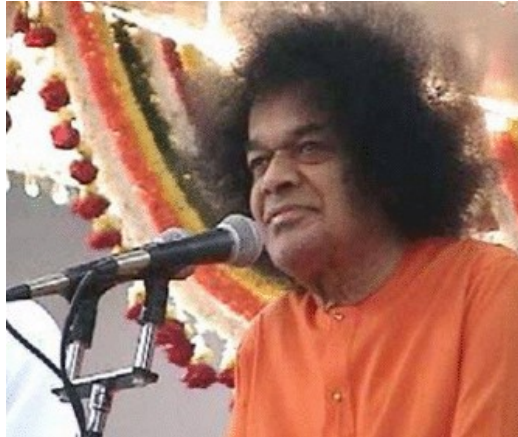




Gurus Corner

Sai's Tips to Teachers - Part III



"Gurur Brahma, Gurur Vishnuh
Gurur devo Maheswarah
Guru Sakshaath Parabrahma
Thasmai Sri Gurave namah"

A teacher has to carry out the work of Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva; the Creator, Protector and Destroyer, respectively. The Guru sows the seeds of virtue, of wisdom, and of faith in the heart. He is therefore, Brahma, of the nature of the Creator. He cannot sit back and silently watch the fate of the pupil, after the first few lessons. He has to guide the pupil at every step, foster and encourage good habits, sound reasoning and valid emotions, and acts as Vishnu. The Guru has also the duty cast on him, to watch every step of the pupil, and warn him off, when he takes a false step, or develops a bad habit, or entertains a deleterious doubt. The Guru must be ever alert to destroy the pests of vice and weeds of sloth and unsteadiness, acting as Maheshwarah.

Ideal Teacher

Those good men and women who teach children how to act righteously in the future ahead of them and promote the spirit of equality and affection are alone ideal teachers. The teacher is really the one who teaches others how to live.

Spiritualizing routine education by integrating the values with education

The subjects you teach in school or college may be different, but through everyone, you can emphasize human values. The human body is a vastly busy, well organized chemical laboratory. When you hit the table, the table too hits with equal force. Learn from this that every action has to meet with reaction. While teaching mathematics, you can explain the role plus and minus as affecting, even in life, the fate of man.



Do not turn them into experts in Mathematics, unable to add a simple domestic bill; scholars in geography of America, but unable to direct a pilgrim who desires to know in which direction Kasi lies; prodigies in Algebra who are helpless when asked to define the area of their own rooms; past masters in drill and gymnastics, but, all at sea when requested to sit in the Padmasana posture; proficient in Botany, but ignorant of the use of the common Tulsi plant, found in the court yard of every Indian home. They can draw realistic pictures of dogs and foxes, but their handwriting remains an illegible scribble.

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Consider every subject you teach as a means for installing faith in God. When you teach Physics, lead the students into the magnificent mystery of philosophy also. While teaching Botany; guide them into the sublime secrets of the tree, and of the creator who has blessed them with it.