



Awareness towards Environment among Secondary School Students

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Abstract:

Today, the world is facing many types of Problem among which environmental pollution and environmental change are the major problems. This study attempts to find out the awareness about environmental pollution and environmental changes occurring due to it among the students of Secondary Schools. Besides, this study also shows how children can be made aware about conservation of earth by enabling them to make efforts to protect the earth. School children make their families aware of certain things when they go home and therefore it is necessary to make such students familiar with the problems so that they can acquaint their families with such problems. This study aims to bring awareness about environmental pollution and environmental changes and what can be done to protect the earth.

Keywords: Awareness, Environmental change, Environmental pollution

1. Introduction

Currently the world is suffering from many types of dangerous problems, and India and Gujarat are also affected by these problems. Today, if at all there are problems more serious than the problem of corruption and terrorism they are the problems of environmental pollution and environmental changes. Today, it is alarming to see the way the environmental is being polluted which results into environmental changes. If steps are not taken to conserve the environmental and stop the pollution, the earth may be devastated in the near future. Like the dinosaurs which vanished in the past, similarly the human race will also vanish in the near future. Therefore, it is necessary to make people aware about environmental pollution and environmental changes. Today, schools and school activities are an important medium to bring any type of awareness. If children are made aware towards various things they can play an important role in preventing environmental pollution and environmental changes in future. The school children can make their families aware of such problems. Therefore the investigator has conducted this study to know whether the secondary school children have the awareness about these problems, and to know what can be done to bring awareness among the children.

2. Objectives of the Study

This study has been conducted by keeping in mind the following objectives.

1. To find out awareness about environmental among Secondary School children.
2. To find out awareness about environmental pollution among Secondary School children.
3. To find out awareness about environmental changes among Secondary School children.
4. To suggest remedies to bring awareness among Secondary School children about environment.

3. Study Questions

This study has been conducted by keeping in mind the following questions

1. Whether the Secondary School students have the awareness about environment?

2. Whether the Secondary School students have the awareness about environmental pollution?
3. Whether the Secondary School students have the awareness about environmental changes?

4. Definition of Key terms

4.1 Secondary school students

Students studying in Std.9 and Std.10.

4.2 Environmental Changes

The direct or indirect changes occurring in environment due to activities done by human beings which include pollution, greenhouse effect, global warming and its effects.

4.3 Study on awareness

Whether the Secondary School students have awareness about environmental pollution and environmental changes.

5. Importance of the study

The study has been conducted in terms of understanding and awareness among Secondary School students about environmental pollution and environmental changes. With the help of this study it has been known to what extents the future citizens of the country are aware about environment and the environmental changes with the help of this study it can be known whether the students have enough knowledge about these problems or not. This study will enable to know about what steps have been taken to overcome these problems and this study will enable the students to acquaint their families about the awareness towards environment. This study will be helpful to bring awareness among the family members.

6. Limitations of the study

The following are the limitations of the study:

- This study is confined to secondary schools of Kheda district.
- This study is confined to Gujarati medium grant-in-aid Secondary School.
- The tool for this study has been constructed with the help of experts and therefore the limitation of the tool will be the limitations of the Study.

7. Population and sample of the Study

The Secondary School of Kheda districts are the Population of the Study. The sample of the study has been selected by the stratified random method which includes 5 Schools of each of the 3 Talukas Viz, Kheda, Matar, Mahemdabad. Thus 15 Secondary Schools were selected in the sample of the study. From each school 25 boys and 25 girls were selected. Thus, there were 375 boys and 375 girls in the sample of the study. Total 750 students were selected as the sample.

8. Tool for the study

A Questionnaire was used as the tool for the study which consisted of 4 sections namely knowledge about environment, knowledge about environmental pollution knowledge about environmental changes, and contribution and efforts towards environment protection. Each section included 20 questions. Thus there were 80 questions in the questionnaire which was constructed with the help of experts.

9. Study method, Data collection and Analysis-

This study was conducted by survey method through which data were collected with the help of the questionnaire. The data obtained through the questionnaire were statistically analyzed and mean score were obtained. Frequency distribution was prepared on responses obtained on the question which were converted into percentages and the opinions of the students were demonstrated.

10. Findings of the study

The following are the findings of the study.

1. Most of the students were found to be familiar with the issue of environments and its factors.
2. Most of the students were found aware about the environmental and human existence.
3. Most of the students were found to be familiar with the factors with polluted the environment.
4. More students were found aware about the remedies to prevent environmental pollution.
5. According to most of the students they get very less information about environmental changed from schools or school activities.
6. According to most of the students, there are very less co-curricular activities in schools to bring awareness about environmental changes.
7. Most students were found less aware about environmental changes and their dangerous effects.
8. Most of the students unaware about their ability; to contribute to the remedies to prevent the environmental changes.
9. Most students did not make their family members aware about environmental changes, their seriousness and remedies to prevent them.
10. Most students were very less aware about the program of environmental protection.
11. Most students were familiar about their contribution to protect the environment but they were not found serious in this matter.
12. Most students were not satisfied with the school efforts for environment
13. According to students, the done in schools were ordinary and there was nothing innovative like the field work.
14. Most students did not acquaint their families with the issue of environment protection.

11. Suggestions

The following are the suggestion of the study:

- The knowledge and awareness about environmental changes and their effects are found to be less among the students; therefore these types of questions should be included in school curricula.
- It seems that the co-curricular activities about environment awareness and protection are done for just formality; therefore the subject of environment should be given priority in co-curricular activities.
- If various programs of environmental protection organized by the Government are to be made effective, the students should be made active to participate in such programs.
- The students should be actively included in various school programs to make the environmental programs more effective.
- In spite of old and traditional co-curricular activities the importance should be given to practical and active co-curricular activities related to environment protection.
- The teachers should acquaint students with various subject related to environmental changes and their effects.
- School and Government should make serious attempts so that students can contribute to protection of environment and familiarize their families with such issues.
- Practical programs should be organized to enhance importance of environment and serious contribution of families in such matters.

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