



Preparing and Using an Educational Project for Children

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Abstract: The present project focuses on the development of the computerized educational kit for the pre-primary children from underprivileged second of the society in collaboration with the Friend Society of Delhi. Friend society is one of the NGOs working in Delhi for underprivileged people of the society. The objectives of the project were to prepare and check the effectiveness of an educational kit on pre-primary education for the Balwadi children of the Friend Society, Delhi. A group of 20 children of Balwadi registered for the present action project. Total 35 days one-hour session was conducted. The children's enjoyed the activities more related to colors, fine motor skills, number and counting, fruit and vegetable, animal, and birds. Both the teachers reported that the content and topics covered in this educational kit were appropriate according to the children.

Index Terms – Project, Children, Education, NGO.

I. INTRODUCTION

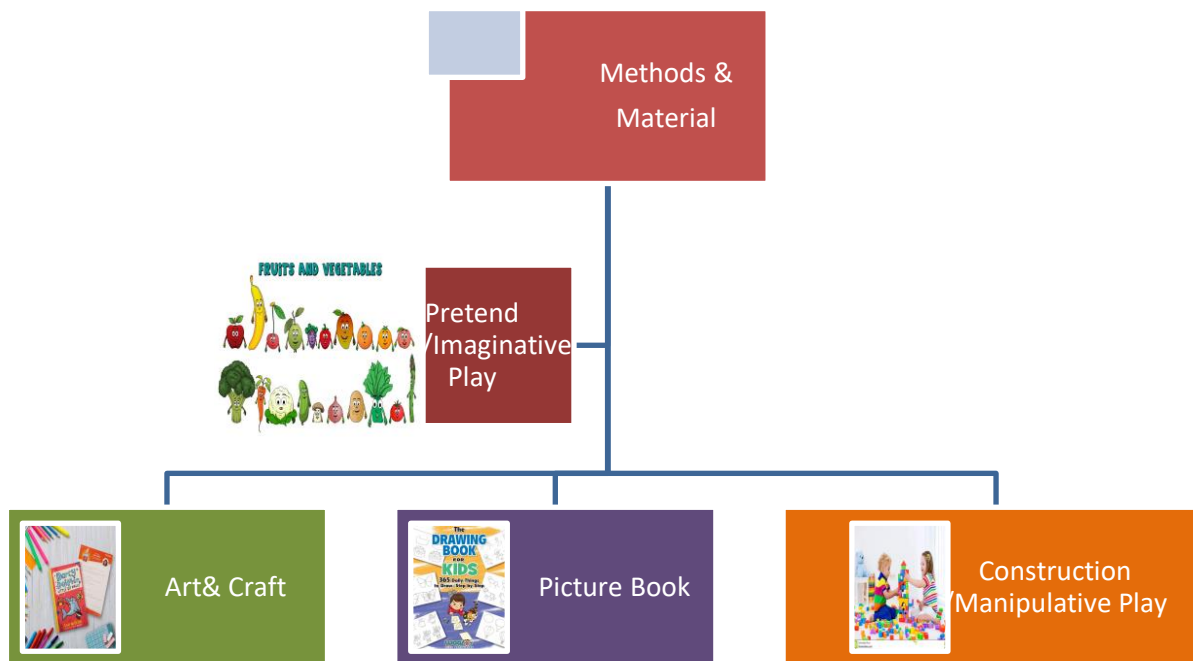
Pre-Primary Education

Going to Pre School is a small step for a giant exposure in a child's life this is the first place where the child builds his/her self-esteem. A child learns the importance of his name, things, and friends. Every child learns to communicate with his teachers and fellow students in the Pre School. It is the right place for the child's foundation for lifelong progress. The skills and knowledge that the child develops in Pre School have a great impact on the aptitude and attitude of the child later in life. The child's positive learning attitude, the basic foundation in language, comprehension, and management, helps the teacher to facilitate the child's learning at kindergarten and higher levels of education. Moreover, childhood education specialists claim that young children learn best when they have an opportunity to interact with their peers, and their parents and instructors treat them kindly. They bloom well in a tension-free environment. Besides they comprehend and learn things better if they are introduced to new things in small portions.

- The other importance of pre-primary education is as follows,
- A good head start for learning
- Teaching in a fun-filled way play method
- Putting children on a path of lifelong learning
- Higher development in language and mathematical skills.
- A great opportunity to develop social skills.
- Exposure to enhance communication skills.
- Pre School and Kindergarten methods lay a solid foundation for children and help them to grasp knowledge easily in the later stages of school and college life.

There is some ECCE (Early Childhood Care and Education) centers running under SSA (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan) and some pre-schools are attached to government as well as private schools. Early schooling in India plays an important role in preparing children emotionally, mentally, socially, and physically for higher education and proper understanding of different subjects. Good primary education inspires both parents and students to enroll for pre-primary and higher levels at the later stages of higher studies. India follows a systematic process of preschool education to impart knowledge in the best possible way for a better understanding of young children. By following an easy and interesting curriculum, teachers strive hard to make the entire learning process enjoyable for the children. In India, private pre-school kids play different games and indulge in varied activities that make them cheerful and happy. Rhymes, storytelling sessions, and movement activities help them to learn basic skills. All these schools build a very colorful and engaging learning atmosphere for kids with theme-based classrooms and different activity areas.

In India, different methods and materials are used to impart Pre-Primary education both in private schools and under ICDS (Agnawadi). Following methods and materials are used by the Pre-Primary school teachers.



Meaning and Importance of Educational Kit

The educational kit provides teachers (also trainers, educators, NGOs, and youth groups) with a simple yet comprehensive teaching tool, to facilitate the inclusion of social-emotional, moral values, and other teaching curricula to their pupils entertainingly and appealingly. Educational kits are designed to supplement formal classroom education. These kits contain materials, manuals, and references to be hands-on to provide holistic learning to students. There are numerous benefits that educational kits offer to students. A child can learn with the help of these kits. Experiential learning or learning by experience is essential for turning knowledge into wisdom for children.

It helps a child to absorb more knowledge and ensures that the learning stays in the mind for a longer time. Classroom teaching is not sufficient if you want your children to grasp more knowledge. Educational kits make learning more effective for students. Another crucial benefit of using educational kits is that they make learning, great fun. Classroom learning is believed to be boring because kids get bored listening to classroom lectures. Educational kits on the other hand make learning fun and enjoyable. Because these kits are hands-on, entertain the kids.

Educational kits are indeed the safest way to learn education. There are many theories and principles in education that can be understood only when demonstrated in practice. Educational kits include the activities related to the curriculum such as shapes, colors, community helpers, Alphabets, fine motor skills, cognitive skills, etc. help the children to understand these concepts more easily. Keeping in mind the benefits of the educational kit it was decided to prepare an educational kit on Pre –Primary Education under this action project.

Objectives of Project

- To prepare an educational kit on pre-primary education for the Balwadi children of the Friend Society, Delhi.
- To impart pre-primary education amongst the Balwadi children of Friend Society through Educational Kit.
- To check the effectiveness of an educational kit in imparting pre-primary education amongst the Balwadi children of the Friend Society.
- To take the feedback from the teachers of Balwadi regarding the project and project worker.

II. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

EVALUATION OF THE PROJECT

The project was evaluated by using two methods. The project worker did the observation of the children during the execution of the project. The reaction scale was prepared to get the reactions from the Balwadi teachers. The reaction scale was divided into three sections and it seeks their reaction about the project and the project worker.

Observations

- On the first day, this educational kit was introduced to the children and teachers.
- Children loved this educational kit when they did the activities included in this educational kit.
- The children's enjoyed the activities more related to colors, fine motor skills, number and counting, fruit and vegetable, animal, and birds than the other activities.
- Some of the children faced difficulties in completing the activities related to community helper, season, and vehicles.
- At the time of, children's revisions children responded well.
- The children understood all the topics very well and then completed all the activities.
- At some times, it seemed boring to children to do the activities, but they enjoyed it when they do it at the time of revision.
- Learning through this educational kit was enjoyed by the children and they got the chance to learn with a different method.

Reactions of the Teachers

- One of the teachers reported that the educational kit was very good whereas another teacher reported that the educational kit was average.
- Both the teachers reported that the content and topics covered in this educational kit were appropriate according to the children.
- Both the teachers reported that activities related to community helper, were good, whereas activities related to seasons were very good.
- They gave mixed replies for the overall project one of the teachers reported that it was very good and one reported it was average.
- Both of them reported that they liked the materials used in this educational kit.
- Both the teachers reported that they found the changes in the students after participating in this project. They reported that the teaching methods and materials were different and were easier to understand for the children than their material.
- The teachers reported that children used to pay attention when they were engaged in the activities prepared under the project.
- Teachers also reported that this educational kit helped children in understanding the concept very fast.
- Both the teachers reported that they will encourage such projects in the future also.
- The teachers appreciated all the activities prepared under this educational kit and shown their interest in producing similar kits for their students on other topics.

III. Conclusion

Pre Primary Education is a set of knowledge along with skills and experience as well as behavioral rules which provide the essential for coping successfully in everyday life and at school. According to the Right to Education Act, education is a fundamental right of every child. Seven decades have passed after independence but still, India struggles to achieve a literacy rate of over 90 percent. Since India is a vast country both geographically and demographically government alone cannot bring all children into the fold of education. In such a scenario, the role of the civil society becomes all the more important to ensure that the benefits of education reach the lowest strata of the society. NGOs are supporting children by organizing funds for their education, launching educational programs for street children, and running Balwadi in their centers. This is a need of an hour to support these organizations by providing such educational kit which they can use effectively in their organizations.

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