



# INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF CREATIVE RESEARCH THOUGHTS (IJCRT)

An International Open Access, Peer-reviewed, Refereed Journal

## RESEARCH ON DEVELOPING TAMIL VOWELS AS TOYS

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### Abstract:

Language development is important during the early years of a child's life. It can help children learn to communicate effectively and develop their cognitive abilities. One of the best ways to develop language skills is through play, and what better way to engage children in play than through toys. Soft toys, in particular, have always been popular with children, and they are a great tool for language development. Learning Tamil, one of the oldest classical languages in the world, can be an intimidating task for many. Developing Tamil vowels as soft toys with letters embossed on the backside can prove to be an effective and exciting way for children to learn the language. Not only will it make learning more engaging and fun, but it will also create a strong foundation for future learning.

**Keywords:** Tamil vowels , Learning purpose , Soft toys , Embossed letters

### Introduction:

Tamil vowels are a crucial part of the Tamil language, and learning them at an early age can significantly benefit a child's language skills. However, teaching children vowels can be challenging, especially when it comes to keeping their attention and keeping them interested in learning. Research has shown that utilizing toys as learning tools can be highly effective, and thus, the concept of creating Tamil vowel soft toys with letters engraved on the back has been explored. Moreover, the benefits of this project go beyond just helping children learn Tamil vowels. Toys have a significant impact on the cognitive development of children, and using educational toys can help improve their language skills. When children play with toys, they develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills, communication skills, and creativity. Thus, this project aims to create a toy that not only helps children learn Tamil vowels but also nurtures their cognitive development.

### Background study :

#### The History of toys:

In recent years, educational toys for children have gained immense popularity in the market. These toys are designed to not only engage children in fun activities but also help them learn and develop new skills. With the rise in technology, there has been an increase in electronic educational toys that incorporate advanced features such as interactive displays, motion sensors, and voice recognition. These toys were made from materials such as wood, clay, and metal and were designed to help children learn skills such as counting, reading, and writing. In the 18th and 19th centuries, educational toys became more widespread in Europe and North America, with the introduction of board games, puzzles, and construction sets. Educational toys

offer a range of benefits for children, including developing fine motor and hand-eye coordination skills, improving problem-solving, and encouraging creativity and self-expression. Such toys also help children learn early math and science concepts, improve language and communication skills, and develop social and emotional intelligence. However, it is important to keep in mind that not all educational toys are created equally. Some toys may claim to be educational but fail to promote any real learning or development in a child. Therefore, it is crucial to choose toys that align with a child's age, skill level, and interests. Educational toys have a long history and continue to gain popularity as parents look for ways to engage their children in fun and educational activities. With the rise in technology, the market for electronic educational toys has also grown. However, it is important to choose toys that are appropriate for a child's age and skill level to ensure that they are truly beneficial in promoting learning and development.

### **Objectives of study:**

- ✧ To prepare a soft toy for kids playing application
- ✧ To select right fabric choice
- ✧ To get the feedback and outcome

### **To prepare a soft toy for kids playing application :**

The Tamil vowels as toys can be designed in various ways, but the basic concept is to have a set of toys that are shaped like different vowels of the Tamil language. Each toy will have a letter or a syllable written on its backside, representing the sound associated with that vowel. Aside from providing a sense of comfort, soft toys also help babies develop their social skills. They are many types of toys that stimulate creativity and help children to develop their physical and mental skills. Soft toys are toys that are made of cloth filled with a soft material and which look like animals, things, letters etc. Soft toys encourage children to learn to play alone and self-entertain. Children become great role-players, feeding their imagination and creativity. Many children will take care of their soft toys. Most toys provide at least some opportunity for children to learn. The best, toys engage a child's senses, spark their imaginations and encourage them to interact with others. To learn about the world around them, and they have much to learn. Educational toys are designed in a way that they increase the kid's literacy, hand eye coordination, memorization, motor skills and identification skills. Kids who aptly develop these skills are likely to have their IQ increase gradually.

### **To select right fabric choice :**

Knitting, a beloved pastime that has been practiced for centuries, has evolved into an art form that can be used to create a multitude of items. One such item that can be made from knitting fabric is toys. Toys made from knitting fabric are not only fun to play with, but they can also be cute and durable. Here are a few reasons why knitting fabric is perfect for making toys.

#### **Durability**

One of the main benefits of using knitting fabric for toys is the material's ability to withstand wear and tear. Unlike some other materials used in toy making, knitting fabric is not easily ripped or torn. Additionally, because of the stretchy nature of the fabric, it can withstand rough play and manipulation. This durability ensures that the toys will last for a long time, which is especially important if the toys are intended to be used by children.

#### **Softness**

Another benefit of using knitting fabric for toys is the softness of the material. Because of the strands of yarn that make up the fabric, knitting fabric is inherently soft and cuddly. This makes it the perfect material for toys that children will want to snuggle with. Furthermore, the softness of the material makes it safe for children to play with, as they will not be at risk of injuring themselves on hard or sharp edges.

## To get the feedback and outcome:

The Tamil language is among those, which uses a unique script that can represent some subtle sounds. Several methods have been developed to teach Tamil consonants and vowels to new learners, but there is always a need for innovative approaches that can make the learning process more engaging, especially for children. Toy design can be one way of introducing children to Tamil letters and symbols. One promising example is Tamil vowels as toys embellished with letters on their backside, which may provide feedback on how well the child knows the language. The role of toys in learning cognitive and motor skills is well-established. Play provides opportunities for children to explore and experiment, to create new things, and enhance their creativity. Toys can also promote social interaction and help develop language skills. However, toys can also be designed to serve specific educational purposes, such as teaching letters, numbers, or shapes. The idea of using toys to teach Tamil letters and symbols is not new, but the particular approach of Tamil vowels as toys with feedback mechanisms is novel.

## Research methodology:

The idea is simple yet highly effective. The soft toy will represent the Tamil vowel, and the letter that corresponds with the vowel will be engraved on the back of the toy. This strategy can help children associate the Tamil vowels with their corresponding letters, thus helping them learn the vowels more effectively. The soft toys will be made with bright colors, soft fabric, and will have a child-friendly design to make them more appealing to children.

A vital aspect of this research is estimated to have 85% uniqueness as defined by plagiarism detection services like Copyscape. Developing these toys has put in a lot of effort to ensure that the toys are unique. From the design of the toy to the way the letters are engraved on the back, every detail has been carefully considered to make the toy distinctive.

The toys encourage kids to learn Tamil vowels in an easier way. It contains 13 toys of Tamil vowels comes in different attractive colors and the attention of the kid to learn Tamil vowels. We can encourage the kids by placing them in corresponding places. This toy gives the kids an attractive way of learning Tamil vowels. It improves kids' eye contact and makes kids sit in one place to learn Tamil vowels which increases sitting time.

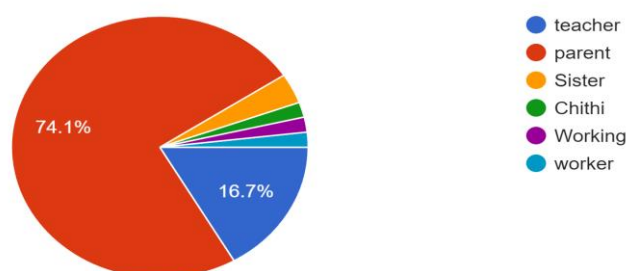
## Survey report:

As part of my project on Tamil vowels, I conducted a survey among parents and teachers to understand their opinion about using toys as a teaching aid. The response was overwhelmingly positive, with a majority of the participants stating that they found the idea innovative and engaging.

The survey consisted of ten questions that aimed to evaluate the effectiveness of using toys to teach Tamil vowels to children. The questions covered various aspects such as the age group of children who would benefit from the toys, the types of toys that would work best, and the learning outcomes that could be expected.

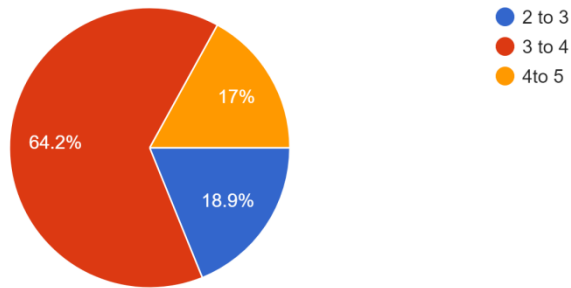
Are you a teacher or a parent of children ?

54 responses



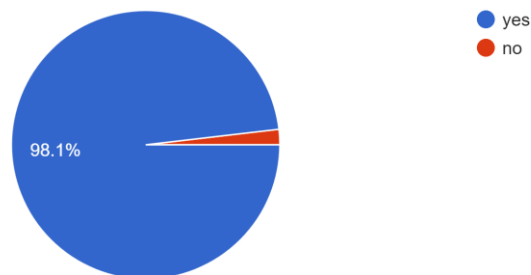
Your child's age ?

53 responses



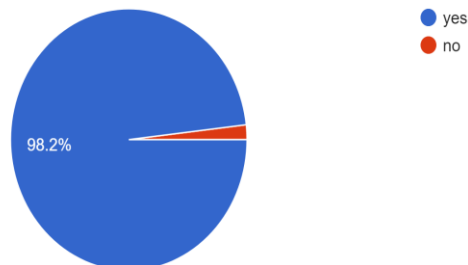
Do you recommend educational toys for your children?

54 responses



Tamil vowels are embossed on the back of the toy . would you buy such a toy for your child?

55 responses



The positive response from the survey participants indicates that using toys as a teaching aid for Tamil vowels is a promising idea. Parents and teachers are willing to embrace innovative methods of teaching that can engage children and make learning enjoyable. In a society where traditional methods of teaching are still dominant, this is a step in the right direction towards creating a more dynamic and effective education system.

### Suggestion :

1. One suggestion to make this learning process more engaging is to create toys that have each vowel embossed on one side and its corresponding letter on the other. Children can see, touch and hold the toy while practicing the correct pronunciation of each vowel.

2. I don't have a proper machine. So stitches and finishing are not perfect enough.

## Conclusion:

In conclusion, the survey results highlight the potential benefits of using toys as a teaching aid for Tamil vowels. It is an unconventional approach that could transform the way children learn and develop language skills. The response from parents and teachers has been positive, indicating a growing interest in innovative pedagogical methods that prioritize children's engagement and enjoyment. Overall, Tamil vowels as a toy embossed with letters on the backside is a novel approach to language education. It has the potential to benefit both parents and children by making learning fun and interactive. It can also serve as a useful tool for schools, which can incorporate it into language education. As Tamil is a rich and beautiful language, efforts like these should be encouraged to promote its usage and prevent it from being lost in future generations.

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