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A STUDY OF STUDENT'S KNOWLEDGE IN ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Dr Amita Dangwal, Assistant Professor (Guest Faculty)

Department of Education H.N.B.G. University, Campus Pauri Garhwal, Uttarakhand

Abstract:

The objective of this study is to find out the knowledge and interest of students of government and private schools in environmental education. The sample comprised 120 students from the sixth and seventh. By random sampling, 60 students were selected from government and 60 from private schools. A questionnaire was constructed for data collection. Statistical methods used were Mean, S.D. Median, Mode and t-test. No significant difference was found in the knowledge and interest of students of government and private schools.

Keywords:

Environment, Knowledge, interest

Introduction:

Environment is defined as conditions and circumstances that surround an organism. According to Douglass and Holland, 'environment' describes all the external forces, influences and conditions that affect life, nature, behaviour and living organisms' growth, development and maturation (Aggarwal, J.C 2008). Environmental education is a process that aims to develop a population that is aware of and concerned about the environment, equipping them with the skills, knowledge, attitudes, and motivation to address environmental challenges and act responsibly.

Objective of study

1. To study the knowledge and interests of students of government schools.
2. To study the knowledge and interests of students of private schools.

Hypothesis

There is no significant difference between the knowledge and interests of students of government and private schools.

Review of related literature

Rajpoot, J. S.(1988). A research study for the identification of teaching skills and training strategies for implementing the environmental approach at the primary level. Children from the third and fourth classes of Bhopal City were put to the test, and the test was developed to assess the children's environmental awareness at the pre-test and post-test of the experiment. The experimental and control groups were compared on their understanding of the environment. Findings show that the mean scores of environmental awareness for the control and experimental group at pre and post-test levels, out of 14 comparison groups in 7 schools, 9 groups had no significant difference, and 5 groups had a significant difference due to treatment.

Rane, A. J. (1989) evaluated the environmental studies approach of Parisar Asha in municipal schools in Greater Bombay. Sampling was done in twenty-nine schools. A multistage sampling procedure was used to select the sample. Findings show that Parisar Asha has gained momentum within a short period by organizing various programmes to implement the EVS approach to learning in a large number of schools of varied kinds. The training personnel were aware of their function and role.

Sahoo, K. C. (1992) studied a critical study of the conception and perception of environmental education. The objectives of the study were to study the concept and constituents of the environment and the environment-man relationship. The philosophical methods of introspection, intuition, speculation and reflection were used. Findings show that the concept of the environment is divided into man-made type and natural. The relationship between man and environment is symbiotic in nature.

Praharaj, B. (1991) studied the attitude, knowledge and perception of teachers in environmental education. The sample consists of 718 pre-service and in-service teachers. An environmental knowledge inventory is used to assess environmental knowledge, a questionnaire assesses environmental perception, and environmental attitude is assessed by an environmental attitude scale. The result shows that in-service teachers had a higher level of environmental attitude than pre-service teachers. A moderate correlation was found between environmental knowledge and environmental attitude.

Dangwal, A. (2024) published, a critical study of students' interest in environmental education. Survey research method used. The sample was selected by random sampling. The result shows that there was a significant difference in knowledge and interest between male and female students.

Research Methodology

Research method – Survey research method used in this study.

Population of study- The population comprised class sixth and seventh students of schools of Pauri, district Pauri Garhwal.

Sample- The sample consists of 120 students from the sixth and seventh. The sample was selected by random sampling. The sample comprised 60 government school students and 60 private school students.

The tool used in the study- A questionnaire was constructed by an investigator for data collection. 60 questions were written in Hindi and submitted to a group of teachers, students and experts for expressing their suggestions. 40 questions were selected.

Data collection – Data was collected from students at the schools in Pauri. The students were asked to read each question carefully and respond to every item of the questionnaire. The questionnaire consists of 40 questions. Corresponding to each question, four alternatives were given. Out of four alternatives, one alternative was to be selected by putting a tick mark. There was no time limit, but students took about 30 minutes.

Data analysis

Table 1: scores of students of government schools

Class Interval	Frequency
11-15	4
16-20	4
21-25	13
26-30	17
31-35	18
36-40	4
	N= 60

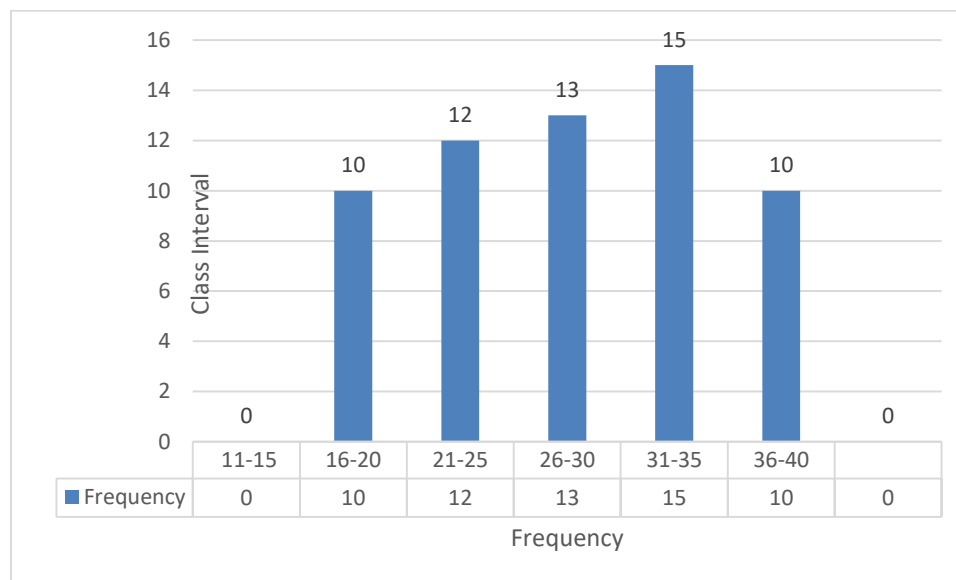


Figure 1: scores of students of government school

The value of Mean, Median, S.D, and mode of 60 students are as follows.

The mean value is 27.42, S.D. 6.40, and the median is 28.15, with mode 32.16. The value of S.D. will be high because mean, median, S.D. and mode values are not equal.

Out of 60 government school students, 4 students have poor knowledge and interest in environmental education, 17 students have normal knowledge and interest in environmental education, 35 students have good knowledge and interest in environmental education, and 4 students have excellent knowledge and interest in environmental education.

Table 2: scores of students of private schools

Class Interval	Frequency
11-15	0
16-20	10
21-25	12
26-30	13
31-35	15
36-40	10
	N=60

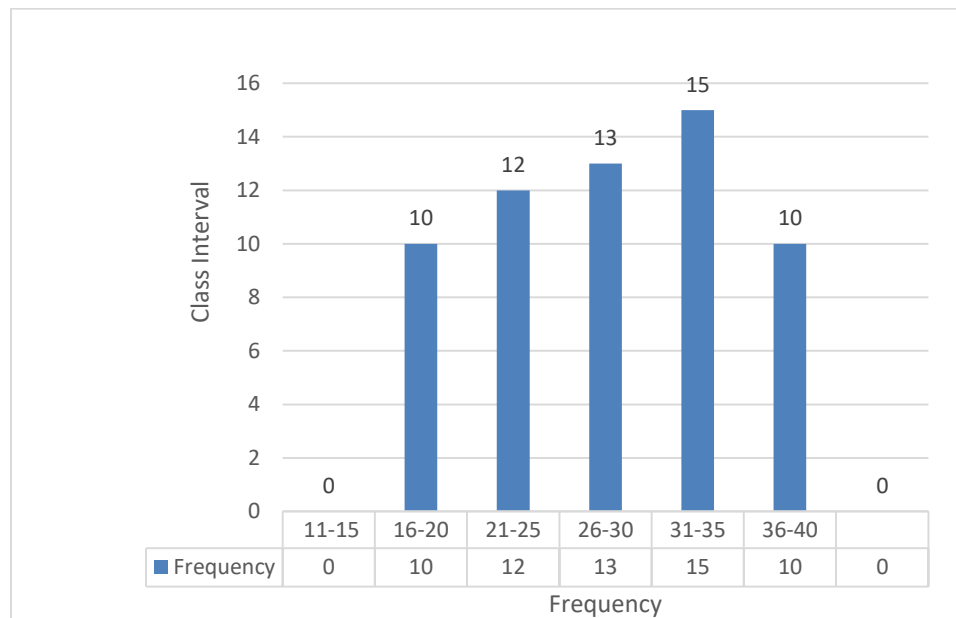


Figure 2: scores of students of private school

The value of Mean, Median, S.D, and the mode of 60 students are as follows.

The value of the Mean is 28.25, S.D.6.67, the Median is 28.53, and the mode is 31.93. The value of S.D. will be high because mean, median, S.D. and mode are not equal.

Out of 60 private school students, 22 students have normal knowledge and interest in environmental education, 28 have good knowledge and interest in environmental education, and 10 have excellent knowledge and interest in environmental education.

Test of hypothesis

To test the hypothesis mean, S.D. and t-test is calculated. The values are given in the table

Table 3: Test of hypothesis

Students	No.	Mean	S.D.	Df	t-test	Level of significance	Result
Government	60	27.24	6.40	118	.697	At .05 level	Not significant
Private	60	28.25	6.67			=1.98 At .01 level=2.61	

The value of the t-test at the .05 level is 1.98, and at the .01 level is 2.61. calculated t-value is less than the t-value at the .05 level and .01 level. No significant difference was found between the knowledge and interests of government school students and private school students.

Findings

1-Out of 60 government school students, 4 students have poor knowledge and interest in environmental education, 17 students have normal knowledge and interest in environmental education, 35 students have good knowledge and interest in environmental education, and 4 students have excellent knowledge and interest in environmental education.

2-Out of 60 private school students, 22 students have normal knowledge and interest in environmental education, 28 students have good knowledge and interest in environmental education, and 10 students have excellent knowledge and interest in environmental education.

3- No significant difference was found between the knowledge and interests of government school students and private school students.

Conclusion

Non-significant difference was found between the knowledge and interests of government and private school students.

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