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USE OF ICT AND ELECTRONIC GADGETS IN SCHOOL EDUCATION

Impact of unspecified use of ICT and electronic gadgets among young children

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Abstract: This study has been undertaken to investigate the use of technology on the name of ICT that it can improve the learning skills and abilities of the students including the learning outcome of the content and imagination power of the students.

Through ICT, images, videos can easily be used in teaching to students providing them a better understanding on what they had to be thought by the teacher. ICT in education improves engagement and knowledge retention, when ICT is integrated into lessons. Students become more engaged in their learning practices. This is because along with the education it also provides more fun and enjoy while learning, but this reduces the self-time of the child as without going over its own thoughts and feelings it is feeded by pre-written contents.

Index Terms – ICT, young children, electronic gadgets, education, emotions.

1. INTRODUCTION

Modern ICT have created a “Global City” in which one can access with any type of content across the world. ICT has become a key factor in the future development of service industry including education, transportation facilities, services facilities, bookings, logistics, marketing, etc.

The modern era of globalization booms up the use of ICT at worldwide level, none of any department is being untouched by it.

Generally, information and communication refer to technologies that provides access to information in education or any field. Today’s lifestyle is completely run by technology with the help of electronic gadgets and ICT. Thus, the impact of ICT can be clearly be seen on individuals from all stages of life and age groups. But the impact of ICT among children is long-lasting and also going to effect country economy. As with everything that has their positive and negative effect, depending upon the product and use but in education and among children it can’t be acceptable.

Using ICT is to facilitate the learning process only not to encourage the use of gadgets.

Previous literature was discussing how e-learning may help in providing education in schools at various levels, these only discussed about the positive aspect of the ICT but the update is that ICT is harming the physical and mental health of the students.

The behaviour of the young children has been changed, as the child access such content which may be not right at their age and time. However, as some parents needs to be imposed some parental control over their access.

Therefore, the objective of research is to investigate the factors that may harm the young children by the use of ICT, so to find out how to limit the use of ICT in schools and at home is necessary.

2. USE OF ELECTRONIC GADGETS AND ICT IN EDUCATION

Use of electronics gadgets impose the useful and positive impact over the children when the technology is in the hands of responsible teachers or any guide. It seems to be more effective in education when adopted with open mind into classroom modules.

From basic primary schools to upper secondary schools it has been found that teachers are adopting ICT in their teaching habits, it also replaced chalkboard with digital boards or panels by using digital content to tech students in classrooms.

This approach of using ICT in education system develop the higher thinking skills, creative activities and better understandings of students. So children now a days spend more then 50% of their time over the use of electronic gadgets on the name of digital learning, or playing games. This seems that the development of children has been given to such kind of unauthorized digital content which may divert the life of students towards wrong path. Children six and under spend an average of 2 hours daily with screen media, mostly TV and videos. TV watching begins at very early ages, may be dangerous.

3. METHODOLOGY

For the preliminary investigation, this paper uses conventional literature review and interviews conducted with only two respondents. The two respondents are teachers and one parents along with teacher. The selection of respondents is where the parents must have children that use electronic gadgets and ICT in school or the teachers that use the electronic gadget and ICT in the school that teach 8-12 years old children. The purpose of conducting the literature review was to analyze the effect of using ICT and electronic gadgets among young children. Besides, interviews were conducted for the purpose of validating the factors that were derived from the literature review.

4. NEGATIVE IMPACT OF ICT AND ELECTRONIC GADGETS AMONG CHILDREN

Literature review revealed about the dangerous effects of technology on children's mental and physical health that has been observed by parents and teachers. Many teachers and parents observed harmful effects of using ICT and electronic gadgets regularly in their daily life.

A. Overdependency

Now a day I has been found that for a very easy task or any assignment students are totally depending on the digital content available online. Even they don't use their common sense to solve their problems, whether the solution is correct or not. This leads to make them lazy in classrooms not paying any attention when teacher is teaching.

B. In hand creativity

In this technological era the hand creativity of the student's is extinction day by day as nobody is interested in learning by doing or doing something creative.

C. Individual's social skills

Most students take technological gadgets as a companion and so do not interact physically. This affects and reduces their social skills; a physical relationship is key to socialization.

D. Wrong information

Most website owners only want traffic on their website or blog, so they give pieces of information that could misguide students. This unverified information gives students wrong ideas which affect their education.

E. Malpractices by students

Many students who have the opportunity to go into the exam hall with their iPad or phone, do engage in examination malpractices. Smartphones with the internet can give room to search the web and get answers to some questions during exams.

F. Extinction of good hand writing

Most students now rely on typing on the computer, without putting any effort into their handwriting. This practice has reduced the use of pen and paper to write notes or get their assignment done. Handwriting is now less important and making it legible is no more priority.

G. Mental and physical health

Many times, students who engage in so much usage of technological gadgets tend to suffer some mental and cognitive disorders. This abuse can make them get addicted to internet usage, and cause digital dementia, depression, and obsessive-compulsive disorder. All this affects mental well-being over time and if not checked can cause further damage to students' future.

H. Cyber bullying

When exposed too much to the internet, it can lead to cyberbullying. Teenagers who are vulnerable get abused by people who use the Internet to send messages containing nudity and crime. This makes them exposed and put them in danger.

5. FINDINGS FROM INTERVIEW

For the interview, there were six questions asked on the issue.

Q1: *Do you use ICT in school (if teacher) / home (if parents)?*

Both the teachers replied yes, they are using ICT in school and in home also as apparent.

Q 2: *What type of ICT did you use?*

The teacher replied that the types of ICT used in schools included computer, LCD projector, and smartphone one parent answered that ICT used in their home were the computer, Internet, and television while the other parent said that ICT used in their home included the computer, Internet, tablet, smartphone.

Q 3: *Which subjects use ICT in teaching and learning?*

The teacher responded it is used in all subjects. Meanwhile parents are using ICT just to teach them general things.

Q 4: *What is the positive effect of using electronic gadgets / ICT among children?*

Both show positive attitude towards this question saying that children are attracted towards gadgets. This means they are learning(according to them).

Q 5: *What is the negative effect of using electronic gadgets/ ICT among children?*

The teacher replied that children became diverted after sometime, becoming too busy surfing the Internet for other purposes, exposed to playing games and others which are not useful.

Q 6: *What are the benefits of using ICT at school?*

They replied facilitates cost reduction for schools, allows students to have unlimited access to the learning material, supports online submission of electronic documents, etc. In short, technology in education makes learning all the smarter and more convenient.

6. CONCEPTUAL MODEL

The conceptual model shows that the use of ICT is good in education but a proper limit must be applied over the uses of digital content, as without limit this become dangerous.

=f (ICT)

7. CONCLUSION

Based on study the main factor that is responsible for a good impact of ICT and electronic gadgets among young children is to limit the use of ICT resources in their daily life. ICT adoption at schools for learning purposes not to make learning easy.

Using ICT with proper guidance can provides a huge positive results but at the same track it can destroy the life of children if its uses goes beyond limits.

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