

ASSIGNMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL
EDUCATION

TOPIC ⇒ PROGRAMMES FOR SCHOOL
STRENGTHENING
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION
IN SCHOOL SYSTEM

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PROGRAMMES FOR SCHOOL STRENGTHENING ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION IN SCHOOL SYSTEM

Introduction: Environmental education refers to organized efforts to teach how natural environments function, and particularly, how human beings can manage behaviour and ecosystems to live sustainably. The term often implies education within the school system, from primary to post-secondary. However, it sometimes includes all efforts to educate the public and other audiences, including print materials, websites, etc.

Meaning ⇒ Environmental education is comprised of two words: Environment and education. Environment covers all those circumstances which assert their influence on the individual since conception to death. Whatever found around the individual, may be covered by the term environment. Education is a process in which and by knowledge, character and behaviour of the young are shaped and moulded.

Definition

According to Coob and Hearn (1971), "Environment education is problem-centered, interdisciplinary, value oriented, community-oriented and concerns with man's survival as species, based on student-initiated activities and involvements present and future oriented."

According to S. Mishev (1993), "environmental education appears to be a process that equips human beings with awareness, knowledge, skills, attitudes and commitment to improve environment."

According to R.A. Sharma (1996), "Environmental education refers to the awareness of physical and cultural environment and perceive its relevance for real situation. The problems and issues are to be identified. The imbalances of environment are to be improved in view of sustainable development."

PROGRAMMES FOR STRENGTHENING ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION IN SCHOOL SYSTEM

1. Environmental Clubs → School can form an environmental club or become a part of an existing one in the vicinity and conduct activities around environment preservation. Children can also support local wildlife and reduce CO₂ in the atmosphere by planting trees, shrubs and flowers in the school playground.

2. Embedding environmental preservation in the curriculum → Schools can also make sure children start learning about environmental preservation from an early age. If children are being taught about water as an EVS topic then teachers can cover local water bodies like lakes and rivers. They can appraise the children about water scarcity & ask them to creatively think of ways to conserve water by water

harvesting, innovate means to keep water bodies clean and so on.

3. Adopt a plant programme ⇒ Schools can have a programme to adopt one plant in school and one at home and take pledge to provide complete care to it with the help of a gardener or parents and other.

4. Cleanliness drives ⇒ Schools can have cleanliness drives on campus where children make sure that everything is kept clean and litter free. From classes to school playgrounds - they should be made to feel responsible for keeping all areas spotlessly clean.

5. Environment friendly Policies ⇒ Schools should make sure they have environmental policies that they follow in school and students should be educated on the same. They can install solar panels so children can actually see and experience environment friendly practices daily.

6. Teach children to have empathy for living creatures ⇒ Empathy is an

important value that schools need to inculcate in children. They need to understand that all living creatures need to be looked after.

7. Have special days dedicated to the environment
Organise special events like a 'bids walk to school day' or 'create no trash day' involving parents too.

8. Environment Preservation posters created digitally ⇒ Schools have adequate space where display screen can be placed to run digital posters, artwork, etc. to make it a part of their subconscious learning. One corner can be dedicated to environmental preservation where students, teachers and parents can contribute to the same with digital posters, drawings, poems, latest articles, etc.

9. Pilot Project on Environment Education in School System ⇒ This project was earlier launched with the basic objective of strengthening Environment education in the formal school system.

CONCLUSION ⇒ We, can conclude that Nature is beautiful and needs to be protected. Nature, when taken care of, provides us with everything we need but it can also express its fury if abused. Lately we have been witness to the fury with the forest fires, drought, excessive rainfall and its attendant problems. An important thing is Though we cannot reverse the effect of our actions, we can work towards restoring the damage done, looping in the best people. In this effort we have to also include the younger generation that will inherit the planet.

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