

Concept of Work Education

Work education is seen to be very important, meaningful and the purposeful manual work organised as important part of teaching learning process which results into product and goods which is useful to the society in addition to the pleasure of doing work. It is very necessary for all the section of the education i.e. primary, secondary, higher secondary and for the higher education. Work education can be provided through well developed, channelled and structured programme. It should include the knowledge, various life skills, observation, and moral values through basic life activities.

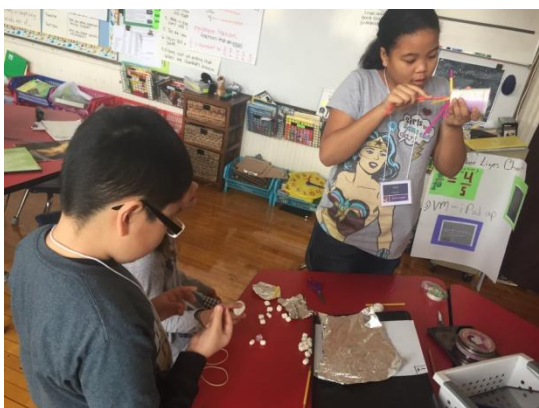


Concept of Work Education National curricular framework for school education as developed by the NCERT (2000) has given a new term work education instead of earlier name work experience. The national policy on education (1986) has concluded work experience as meaningful work which results into goods and services that are beneficial to the people. Work education includes of activities consisting of services, food, clothing, social services and recreation according to the mental level and skill of the children on the basis of availability of the local resources. The policy on education suggested the active participation of primary and secondary students in production and service oriented projects along with an “earn while you learn” for needy students on a optional basis. It provides an equal importance to community services by creating social awareness for the welfare of society. The most important attribute of work education is its manual character which means that children will

work with their hands while they will learn. By this they develop personal, social qualities, skills, values related to work.

Work education must require a self-importance of place in the school syllabus as a means of attaining self-sufficiency and as training for future life. School is a place which acts as a mediator between child and the community. School not only conserve our culture but also nurturing and progressing at the same time. School is a place from where we can bring change in the society. An honest execution of work education in schools can bring the student closer to the community/society and make them a responsible citizen. Psychologically also it will balance the practical and intellectual part of education. It will help to develop the skills, values and dignity for the work and on the other hand child can apply his mind and intelligence for some constructive/productive work which is good for the child and for the society too. As Rabindranath Tagore has once said the mind of a child is like a empty slate whatever we write in it, the word or the knowledge will become permanently accepted by the child so if in this technology oriented society we will feed the brain of the child with technology he/she will grasp the knowledge easily and help in developing society which is technologically fulfil. Work education help in preserving or nurturing the creativity, helpfulness for the other making them useful part of the democratic country.

The concept of work education was basically comes from the early Vedic times when the child lived in ashrams and do every kind of work which is needed for the survival and developing mind. Education is an effective weapon and powerful communication medium to increase the productivity of goods to the individual. The Indian working group on vocationalization of education (1996) has also emphasis on the necessity of work education. According to them prevocational programme should be planned at



primary level to increase the employability and to decrease the dropout from the school. According to Kothari commission the component of work education has been implemented in different schools of the country from 1975 onwards. However its execution varied in emphasis from place to place and from schools to schools.

In every country, the main objective of education is to develop such educational system which provides opportunities to develop talents and skills which are needed throughout their life, to its citizens. It is compulsory to determine that physical labour should be associated with education i.e. work education should be made an inseparable part of education. Work education is considered purposeful and meaningful physical labour, which is organized as the inherent part of educational process. It is deemed as the production of meaningful material and community service, in which the children share the experience of contentment and pleasure. Work education emphasizes on including knowledge, understanding, and practical skills in educational activities. The concept of work education can be understood better through the following factors.

Work Education–

- It establishes coordination in hand and brain.
- Socially useful physical labour is inherent in educational activities.
- It is an essential and significant factor in learning processes.
- It is visible in the form of useful services and productive work for community.
- It is associated as an essential factor with all the aspects of education in multilevel education system.
- It is based on the principle of learning by doing.

Inherent activities in work education–

- Develops skills like problem solving, critical thinking and decision making.
- Invites partnership of teachers teaching all the subjects.
- Is based on needs, interests and capabilities of students.
- Develops abilities of students according to different stages of education.
- Helps in the development of personality.
- Develop and enhances professional readiness and efficiency in production.
- Provides opportunity for interaction with different tools, techniques, methods, materials and objects.
- Provides opportunities for experiencing conditions related to community services.
- Introduces to the world of work.

Factors essential for the success of work education

- Broadmindedness.
- Dignity of labour and positive aptitude.
- Positive relationship between community and school.
- Feelings of co-operation.
- Imaginative and creative aptitude

References:

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