

A Study of Students Knowledge and Interest in Environmental Education

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Abstract

The objective of this study to find out the knowledge and interest of students about concept of environmental education, natural resources and causes and effects of environmental pollution. Sample was selected by random sampling from nearby schools of Pauri, district Pauri Garhwal. For this purpose a questionnaire was constructed for getting data from the respondents. Statistical methods used were Mean, S.D., Median, Mode and t-test. Maximum students have good knowledge and interest in environmental education.

Keywords: Environment, Knowledge, Interest

1 Introduction

Environmental studies deals with every issues that affects a living organism. It is a multidisciplinary approach that brings about an appreciation of our natural world and human impact on its integrity. 'Environmental Education is the process of recognizing values and clarifying concepts in order to develop skills and attitudes necessary to understand and appreciate the interrelatedness among man, his culture and his biophysical surroundings. Environmental education also entails practice in decision making and self formulation of a code of behavior about issues concerning environmental quality'.(international union for the conservation of nature and natural resources commission of education, international working meeting in the school curriculum, Paris, UNISCO, 1970.

1.1 Objectives of study

1. To study the knowledge and interest of students about concept of environmental education.
2. To study the knowledge and interest of students about causes and effects of environmental pollution.
3. To study the knowledge and interest of students about natural resources.

1.2 Research questions

1. What is the knowledge and interest of students about concept of environmental education?
2. What is the knowledge and interest of students about causes and effects of environmental pollution?
3. what is the knowledge and interest of students about natural resources?

2 Review of related literature

In 1975, at the international seminar in Belgrade it was decided the objectives of environmental education should be accepted in a uniform and comprehensive form for all the countries. The objectives of environmental education determined in Belgrade were to develop knowledge towards the environment, skills towards the environment, attitudes towards the environment, participation in finding out problems related to environment and methods of solving environmental problems.

All India science 1956 set the following objectives of physical and biological teaching in seminar: To maintain the stability of environment and atmosphere, to develop creative and investigative and skillful mental powers of students, to formulate rules for a healthy life, to develop the ability to think systematically, to observe and classifying things in students.

According to Gopalakrishnan, Sarojini 1992 objectives of study were to identify the factors of environment, to assess the impact of environmental education through an environmental education test, According to Praharaj, B 1991 objectives of study were to find out the level of knowledge and attitude of environment of in-service and pre-service teachers, to study their perception about environmental education. Shahnawaz 1990 studied awareness and attitude of students and teachers in environmental education. Aim of study was to assess the awareness among students and teachers.

3 Research Methodology

Research Method – Survey research method used in this study.

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

Sample-Sample consists of 120 students of class sixth and seventh. Sample was selected by random sampling.

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

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

4 Data analysis

Table: 1 Concept of environmental education

Dimension	Right responses	Wrong responses
Concept of environmental education	65%	35%

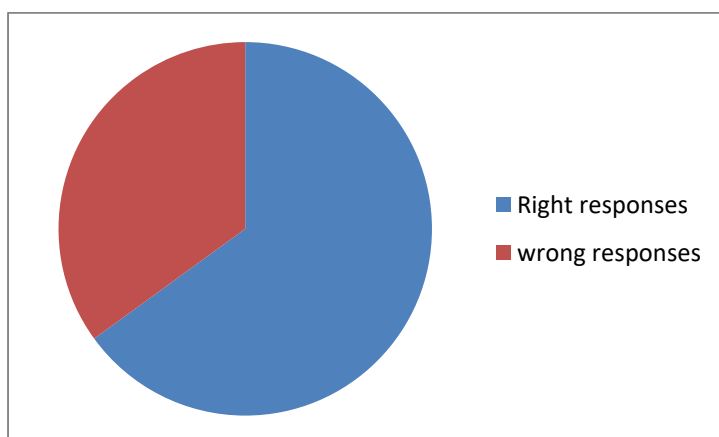


Figure-1

Table 1 shows that 65% students have knowledge and interest about concept of environmental education, 35%. Students don't have knowledge and interest about concept of environmental knowledge.

Table: 2 Causes and effects of environmental pollution

Dimension	Right responses	Wrong responses
Causes and effects of environmental pollution	70%	30%

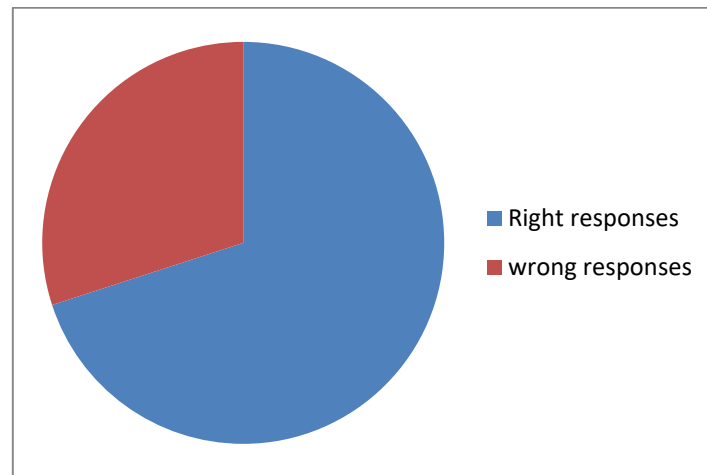


Figure-2

Table 2 shows that 70% students have knowledge and interest about causes and effects of environmental pollution. 30% students don't have knowledge and interest about causes and effects of environmental pollution.

Table:3 Natural resources

Dimension	Right responses	Wrong responses
Natural resources	73%	27%

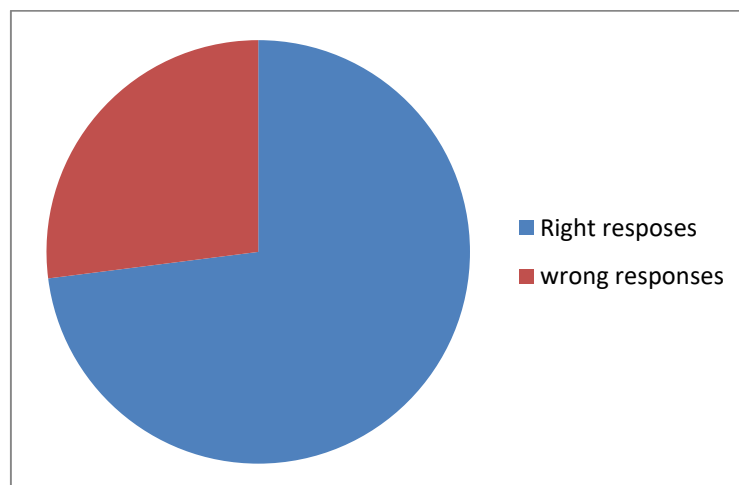


Figure-3

Table 3 shows that 73% students have knowledge and interest about natural resources, 27%. Students don't have knowledge and interest about natural resources.

5 Findings

- 65% students have knowledge and interest about concept of environmental education and 35% students don't have knowledge and interest about concept of environmental education.
- 70% students have knowledge and interest about causes and effects of environmental pollution and 30% students don't have knowledge and interest about causes and effect of environmental pollution.
- 73% students have knowledge and interest about natural resources and 27% students don't have knowledge and interest about natural resources.

6 Conclusion

Maximum students have good knowledge and interest about concept of environmental education, causes and effects of environmental pollution and natural resources.

7 References

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