

Role of Environmental Education in Environmental Protection

Abul Hasant Ashraf¹, Dr. Mozammil Hassan²

MEANING OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION?

Environmental education is a process that allows individuals to explore environmental issues, engage in problem solving, and take action to improve the environment. As a result, individuals develop a deeper understanding of environmental issues and have the skills to make informed and responsible decisions.

The components of environmental education are:

- **Awareness and sensitivity** to the environment and environmental challenges
 - **Knowledge and understanding** of the environment and environmental challenges
 - **Attitudes** of concern for the environment and motivation to improve or maintain environmental quality
 - **Skills** to identify and help resolve environmental challenges
 - **Participation** in activities that lead to the resolution of environmental challenges
- Environmental education does not advocate a particular viewpoint or course of action. Rather, environment education teaches individuals how to weigh various sides of an issue through critical thinking and it enhances their own problem-solving and decision-making skills.

TOP 10 BENEFITS OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Imagination and Enthusiasm are Heightened

EE is hands-on, interactive learning that sparks the imagination unlocks creativity. When EE is integrated in to the curriculum, students are more enthusiastic and engaged in learning, which raises student achievement in core academic areas.

Learning Transcends the Classroom

Not only does EE offer opportunities for experiential learning outside of the classroom, it enables students to make connections and apply their learning in the real world. EE helps learners see the interconnectedness of social, ecological, economic, cultural, and political issue.

Critical and Creative Thinking Skills are Enhanced

EE encourages students to research, investigate how and why things happen, and make their own decisions about complex environmental issues. By developing and enhancing critical and creative thinking skills,

EE helps foster a new generation of informed consumers, workers, as well as policy or decision makers.

Tolerance and Understanding are Supported

EE encourages students to investigate varying sides of issue to understand the full picture. It promotes tolerance of different points of view and different cultures.

State and National Learning Standers are met for Multiple Subjects

By incorporating EE practices into the curriculum, teachers can integrate science, math, language, arts, history, and more into one rich lesson or activity, and still satisfy numerous state and national academic standers in all subject areas. Taking a class outside or bringing nature indoors provides an excellent backdrop or context for interdisciplinary learning.

Bio Phobia and Nature Deficit Disorder Decline

By exposing students to nature and allowing them to learn and play outside, EE foster sensitivity, appreciation, and respect for the environment. It combats “nature deficit disorder” and it’s FUN!

Healthy Lifestyles are Encouraged

EE gets students outside active, and helps address some of the health issues we are seeing in children today, such as obesity, attention deficit disorders, and depression, Good nutrition is often emphasized through EE and stress reduced due to increased time spent in nature.

Communities are Strengthened

EE promotes a sense of place and connection through community involvement. When students decide to learn more or take action to improve their environment, they reach out to community experts, donors, volunteers, and local facilities to help bring the community together to understand and address environmental issue impacting their neighborhood.

Responsible Action is Taken to Better the Environment

EE helps students understand how their decision and action effect the environment, builds knowledge and skills necessary to address complex environmental issue, as well as ways we can take action to keep our environment health and sustainable for the future. Service-learning programs offered by PLT and other EE organizations provide students and teachers with support through grants and other resources for action projects.

Student and Teachers are Empowered

EE promotes active learning, citizenship, and student leadership. It empowers youth to share their voice and make a difference at their school and in their communities. EE helps teachers build their own environmental knowledge and teaching skills. I hope these “top ten” benefits will give you the confidence and commitment to incorporate EE in to your curriculum!

IMPORTENCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Environmental education deals with need to protect the environment because global warming, pollution, and many other issues are ruining our environment badly. We know the importance of a healthy environment. And we should take all the possible measures to keep our environment healthy. One of the most effective means to promote healthy environment is giving proper education to both new as well as old generations. Environmental education and protection are crucial for the benefit of both the environment and humans, its importance cannot be overemphasized.

Education has the power to modify the society and present better knowledge to its populace.

Education can stand as a proper solution to solve different sorts of problems exist in a community and, therefore, education has a prominent role to play to save the environment. The following tips will help you to understand the importance education system plays in protecting our environment:

Role of Awareness in Society

The primary purpose of education when it comes to environmental protection is offering awareness to everyone in society. Education can provide better awareness of a variety of ecological issues that take place day bay day. Everyone in society including kids, youths, adults and mature people can understand and become aware of the various environmental issues if they get proper education on it. Education can give right knowledge on how natural environment functions, and how human beings can deal with behavior and ecosystems for sustainability. In the present day, a lot of people conduct an environmental aware of environmental issues and take action accordingly.

Knowledge on How to Protect the Environment

The education system can play a huge role in saving the earth by imparting knowledge on how to protect the environment to people in diverse communities. Saving environment is a practice of looking after the natural environment on individual, organizational or societal levels for the gains of both the environment and humans. It aids to resolve main problems like acid rain, ozone depletion, climate changes, global warming, etc. Environmental education can be started right from school and can be provided by the use of audio-visual programs, seminars, training programs, awareness campaign ,etc.

Knowledgeable Society

There are a lot of environmental issues around the globe. Air pollution, water pollution, unexpected climate change, garbage, and pollution of natural environment are some of the challenges faced by many other countries in the world. Education plays a massive role in building up a society that is knowledgeable towards the environment and its associated problems. Environmental education teaches individuals and communities to know about the environment and its related issues, become aware of the solution to the environmental issues. motivate the people to solve the problems and take proper actions to save the environment from potential issues.

Solve Complex Issues

Environmental Education can help to solve complex issues that are present in a society. Environmental problems are one of the leading causes of many health issues and long-term livelihood problems in India. So, incorporating education in schools and conducting an environmental awareness campaign in communities can bring people together, discuss the issues, engage with different sorts of people, make practical judgments about various environmental issues and responds to the problems effectively. It will guide people to think seriously, deeply, and productively.

Promote a Holistic Approach

Education on saving the environmental protection programs promote a holistic and lead by example approach among people. It allows people to make certain sustainable and fair use of resources devoid of damaging the environment. Effective programs conducted in schools or any other places encourage kids and parents to have discussion at their home. Environmental education strategies include training individuals to prosper in a sustainable society. Education helps people to establish a strong bond with nature. Nature appreciation and awareness education or programs promotes an ecologically sustainable future.

Enhance Appreciation of Environment

Education indeed enhances appreciation of the environment amid people. Enhancing the appreciation of the environment among citizens can give rise to overall positive environmental, behavioral change. Air pollution, poor managing of water, rising water shortage, declining groundwater tables, water pollution, low conservation and quality of forests, biodiversity loss, and land & soil degradation are a few of the main environmental issues faced by the global world. So, education on environmental issue is essential today since it lets people build up skills, foster a dedication to take steps individually and communally to maintain and enhance the environment.

Making a real investment in environmental education is very important since we live in an epoch where more and more people are disconnected from nature and of critical issues. Education is a tool for self-empowerment because it enables us to take serious and affective action. It leads people to be future conservation leaders and encourage them to take serious and effective action towards critical issues of the day.

Direct & Indirect Results of Saving Environment by Education

Environment is understood in different manner by people. Their understanding differs based on their experiences, education level, how much awareness exist in society.etc People tend to pay more attention to issues which have direct impact on them or whose result are quick to see.

However, environmental impacts are not such. They have far long term and lasting effects. In such a case when the issues grow, the importance of saving environment is realized and stress is given on incorporating it by means of education. The direct impact which people face include the changes in climate cycles, extreme climate and temperature, crop failure, draughts, These are the problems faced by people collectively. Individuals might experience these in different manner and to different extent. Change in climate might increase the electricity consumption for individuals, extreme wither increases the tendency to fall ill and have health implications,

The Qualitative & Quantitative Analysis in Environmental Education

Environmental education at school level includes basics and avoids much of the quantitative aspect. State and fact are very limited which are just to provide a student with some state which can be compared. At a higher level especially when studying the subject in detail states and figures cannot be neglected. Numbers as basis for comparison in the improvement of deterioration of the education.

Although qualitative data is easy to find the result and decisions can be made with the help of figures. NGOs, educational institutions, Govt. and concerned agencies require data to reach any conclusion. Based on the findings policies to tackle the issues such as air pollution, the decrease in green areas/ cover, quality of water, depletion of groundwater, etc. are made. It is essential to provide a clear picture as the conditions can be easily manipulated by the agency preparing a report.

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