

Study of Awareness and Attitude of Parents towards Foundational Literacy and Numeracy

Pooja Prabhakar

(M.Ed, NET (education), M.A (Political science))

ABSTRACT

Parenting is ongoing process that is from raising a child to communicating, from volunteering to decision making etc. No doubt, One of the most influential relationship is between a parent and child. A strong bonding between parent-child will also lead to the overall development of the child. Thus in the present study, an attempt was made to study the awareness level and attitude of the parents towards Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN). Selfmade questionnaire was used to assess the level of the awareness and attitude of parents towards FLN. The focused group was used to find out the know how of parents in the awareness of child's literacy and numeracy skills at elementary level. The survey method was used in the study. Data was collected from the Seventy five parents of children studying upto grade 3 in private schools. In this study, a simple random technique was used to collect the data. This study was conducted in Noida city under Gautam Budh Nagar district, Uttar Pradesh, India. The results displays high level of awareness amongst the parents, a good participation by the parents and school ensuring child's development regarding FLN started by NIPUN Bharat. Most of the parents were of the view point that a collaborative approach is required towards the success of the program.

INTRODUCTION

“National Initiative for proficiency in Reading with Understanding and numeracy (NIPUN), A National Mission on foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN). FLN refers to a child's ability to read with meaning and solve basic maths problems by class 3. These are crucial basic skills that help them to succeed in life. The National Education Policy 2020 accords the highest priority to FLN. # NIPUN Bharat, a National Mission on FLN launched by the Ministry of Education, aims to ensure every child has these basic skills by class 3 by 2026-27. NIPUN Bharat will only succeed if parents play their role in helping children acquire Foundational Literacy and Numeracy” NIPUN Bharat (pp.1). A positive bond simplifies the child's journey of learning and also helps in shaping the mind, health and values. Involvement of parent in child's daily life will always contribute to the academic achievement. Families are the children's first teacher. Children are the shared responsibility between schools and families in supporting their learning and development. Teachers and parents should work together to understand the child better and together create a positive experience for the child, thus a shared understanding would be useful especially of the importance of child development in the early years. Parent's involvement in early years can improve child's behavior, attendance and academic achievement. “According to the World Bank assessment in India just 50 percent of children have foundational learning, which causes difficulty when they reach class 5, it becomes difficult for them to grasp the teaching and learn as per the grade level.” Foundational Literacy and Numeracy report (pp.19). The present study focuses on the role of parents and their attitude towards FLN. The Parental involvement in NIPUN Bharat mission provides encouragement to the students which will affect the quality and overall effectiveness of this mission.

Objectives:

- 1) To study parents awareness regarding Foundational Literacy and Numeracy.
- 2) To study the attitude of parents towards Foundational Literacy and Numeracy.
- 3) To study the role of school in promoting Foundational Literacy and Numeracy.
- 4) To give suggestions for the effectiveness of the program.

Delimitation:

The present study is limited to the parents of upto grade 3 students of different private school, Noida city under the district of Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh.

METHODOLOGY

Survey method is used to collect the data. survey research is defined as “the collection of information from the sample of individuals through their responses to questions”. (Check &Schutt,2012 p.160). This type of research allows for a variety of methods to recruit participants, collect data and utilize various methods of instrumentation. Survey research can use quantitative research strategies (e.g questionnaires with numerically rated items), qualitative research strategies (e.g using open-ended questions) , or both strategies. As it is often used to describe and explore human behavior, surveys are therefore frequently used in social and psychological research (Singleton & Straits, 2009). Questionnaire was used as a tool to collect the data. The population of the present study consists of parents of children studying upto grade three.

Sample:

Sampling is a process used in statistical analysis in which a predetermined number of observations were taken from a larger population. Simple random sampling is used to select the parents and collect the data from them. Simple random sampling is the basic technique where we select a group of subjects (a sample) for study from a larger group (a population). Each individual is chosen entirely by chance and each member of the population has an equal chance of being included in the sample. A total of 75 samples were selected randomly from the private schools of Noida city in Gautam Budh Nagar district, Uttar Pradesh, India .

Procedure:

The sample of 75 parents were selected by way of simple random sampling technique. This statistical technique used is percentage analysis of the responses from the sample. Self made questionnaire was used to collect data.

Analysis and Interpretation of Data:

The study included 75 parents whose children are pursuing ingrade 1,2,3 in 10 private schools with high level of socio-economic vulnerability within the Noida city under District Gautam Budh Nagar. The majority of parents were mothers (98%). Parents had completed their graduation and hold professional title.

The consensus of the data was broadly classified in three dimensions- To check the parent’s awareness level, attitude towards Foundational Literacy and Numeracy skills of the child and school participation towards FLN.

Table 1 presents the distribution of the sample

Dimensions	Affirmative	Negative	Neutral
Awareness about FLN	65%	30%	05%

Table 1 represents 65 percentof the parents were aware of the ongoing mission of FLN started by NIPUN Bharat. 30 percent of the parents did not have any clue and 5 percent of them were neutral. Parents also believed that FLN skills are directly proportional to the child’s development.

Table 1.2

Dimensions	Affirmative	Negative	Neutral
Attitude of parents towards FLN	74.5%	23%	2.5%

It is found that 74.5% of the parents actively participated in activities relating to child’s language and numeracy skills development upto grade 3. The parents providedconducive learning environment to the child by understanding the strength and weaknesses of the child, playing games like hopscotch ,Simon says game, providing grade level fun worksheets, reading folktales, hands on experience on counting etc.Therefore, parental involvement is very important for achieving every milestone of child’s development. This finding is consistent with the result of a study conducted byLaura L. & M. Sarascosti (2019) on“effect of parental involvement on children’s academic achievement in Chile , the study reported that23 percent of the parents were not participating and believed that the school is solely responsible for the child’s development as child spend his most of the time in the school. 2.5 percent parents were neutral.

Table1.3

Dimensions	Affirmative	Negative	Neutral
School participation in implementing the program	74.2%	19%	6.8%

Table 1.3 shows that a high level of participation(74.5%) of parents informed that the private schools are taking interest in FLN mission in NIPUN Bharat. Majority of the parents believed that it is the joint responsibility for ensuring the child’s literacy and numeracy skills. Parents were aware of the slogan – “Padega India to badega India” highlighting the importance of education which will result in development of a nation. Parents also agreed that the support material provided by the school is sufficient for developing language skills. Most of the parents were in favor that the school updates them the child’s progress on a basis regular basis which results in better understanding of child’s overall achievement. 19 percent of the parents did not participate in the school program due to their busy schedules and work routines. 6.8 percent of the parents were not sure about school’s participation.

FINDINGS

- 1) In (table 1.1) shows awareness and interest of parents towards foundational learning and numeracy makes a positive impact to a successful education system.
- 2) It is revealed through this study (table1.2) that the majority of the parents are interested in school initiatives for promoting literacy and numeracy skills in child .
- 3) This study reveals that parental involvement is beneficial for improving cognition when school activities are done at home such as naming words, number games, colors, shapes, seriation etc.
- 4) It was found in(table1.3) that the private schools undertaken for study were updating parents regarding FLN and taking initiatives for the successful implementation of FLN under NIPUN Bharat.

CONCLUSION /SUGGESTIONS

Findings of the study suggest that if the child is unable to read on the grade level, it is essential to think about and discuss the ways to work on his reading difficulties and basic numeracy skills so that a child can access general curriculum content. It is important for parents to take responsibility of child’s literacy and numeracy skills. We need to make sure that methods of addressing literacy needs in every subject area are specially designed for your child. The involvement of parent in NIPUN Bharat will have greatest impact because parents are the primary teachers and they share the greatest bond and they can impact the child in positive way.

REFERENCES

- [1]. National Council of Educational Research and Training (2022); National Curriculum framework for Foundational Learning.
- [2]. Check J.,Schutt R.K. Survey Research. In:J. Check, R.K Schutt, editors. Research methods in Education. Thousand Oaks , CA :: Sage Publications;2012.pp.159-185(Google Scholar)
- [3]. Kapoor .A& Jhalani (2022): State of Foundational Literacy and Numeracy in India. A report.Retrieved on 20th November2023 from <https://eacpm.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/FLN-report-For-Web.pdf>
- [4]. Kapoor. A & Chakma (2023):Foundational Literacy and Numeracy report. pp.19
- [5]. <https://www.hindustantimes.com/cities/lucknow-news/nipun-bharat-mission-to-strengthen-students-foundational-learning-101658430320447.html>
- [6]. Foundational literacy and Numeracy :A pre-requisite to learning and ECCE by Prof. Suniti Sanwal, Head, DEE, NCERT
- [7]. Department of School education and Literacy # NIPUN Bharat pp.1.Retrieved on 25thNovember2023. https://ncert.nic.in/pdf/announcement/NIPUNBharat_web.pdf
- [8]. Nermeen E. ElNokali (2011): Parental Involvement and children’s Academic and Social Development in Elementary school retrieved from 1st December 2023

- .<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3020099/#:~:text=Based%20on%20previous%20research%2C%20it,child's%20self%2Dperception%20of%20cognitive>
- [9]. Department of School education and literacy. NIPUN Bharat Mission .Stakeholders : roles and responsibility. Retrieved on 5th December 2023 https://ncert.nic.in/pdf/NIPUN_BharatStakeholders_RolesResponsibilities.pdf
- [10]. <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fpsyg.2019.01464/full>
- [11]. Stanford.L (2023).Does parental involvement really help students ? Retrieved from <https://www.edweek.org/leadership/does-parent-involvement-really-help-students-heres-what-the-research-says/2023/07>
- [12]. Patel . M (2022): Socio Scientific issues in context of Foundational Literacy and Numeracy. Retrieved from https://www. Research gate.net/publication/359439003_Socio-Scientific_Issues_in_Context_of_FLN
- [13]. Lara .L & Sarascosti (2019): Effect of Parental Involvement on Children's Academic Achievement in Chile