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Maternal Role in Basic Education of Children at the Primary Level of Education in Kohat City

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Abstract

The study was designed to investigate the effect of mother involvement in the basic education of children at the primary level in Kohat city. All the students studying in government primary schools of Kohat City constituted the population of the study. A study was delimited to the 5th class of government primary school PAF, Bazaar Kohat.

Fifty students of 5th class were taken as sample of the study. Students of 5th class were divided into two groups (25+25) on the basis of interview, i.e., ones whose mothers were involved in their studies and others whose mothers not involved in their studies as these mothers were illiterates. A test was constructed in the subject of mathematics and its content validity was determined by the experts. A test was was ministered to the 5th class of government primary school PAF, Bazaar Kohat.

The collected data was analysed and statistical tools such as mean scores of the groups, variance and t-test were used to find out the effect of mother involvement in the basic education of mathematics at the primary level. The results of the investigation revealed that there is significant difference between the students whose mothers were involved with them in their basic education and the students whose mothers were not involved with them in their studies.

Key Words: Mother's Involvement, Basic Education, mathematics, constructed, variance, determine.

Introduction

Education is a vehicle of nation-building through which a nation's shared interpretation of history and cultural values are reproduced across generations. At the country level, education means strong economic growth due to productive and skilled labour force. At the individual level, education is strongly correlated to higher returns in earning and a more informed existence. The emerging global scenario offers immense opportunities and challenges. Only those nations can benefit from it which has acquired knowledge base and skills.

Pakistan is in utter need of raising the literacy rate for joining the club of developed countries. Unfortunately the literacy rate, according to the record of 2007, is about 54%. In this connection much systematic effort is the need of the time. The pressing need is to raise the question how we can upgrade and modernize our educational system. This question must be answered with objectivity to remove all the hurdles which directly or indirectly make our efforts less effective.

Formal education begins in the child's life from the primary school at the age of 5 years. Generally first five years in the school are considered as the primary stage in the life of the students. The next three years are to be considered middle and further next as high school.

Review of Related Literature

Mother has not always been a welcome party to educational activities concerning their children. The current emphasis on mother involvement represents a major shift in educational philosophy. This change in attitude about mother's role in education has come about only gradually. Head start and follow through were unique programs which include mother in educational and advisory roles. All this occurred at a time when mother's involvement was viewed rather skeptically, especially for low income parents, who sometimes were believed to be indifferent or even a hindrance to their child's progress in school (Peterson, 1987).

Child's creativity can be increased when the mother provides opportunities to the child to grow in self-confidence. The child learns that he or she can control the outcomes of various situations, if he or she is willing to take chances, investigate or experiment.

Roger Von Oech says, "I believe that the mind is not only a computer that possesses information, it is also a museum that stores experiences, a playground in which he has to play, a muscles to be strengthened, a workshop in which to construct thoughts. Too often we,

as a society, pressurize children and adults alike to follow the roles, stop playing and get down to business. Unfortunately, this attitude stifles innovative thinking. We need to make efforts to teach our children to take creative risks, to play with ideas, and always consider, “what else could this be?” ”

Mother who makes effort to discover the various characteristics of the child’s learning style can help her child in several ways. First she can explain things and present new concepts in ways that the child is most likely to understand. Second, she can help her child to recognize how they learn and how to deal with information presented through different ways.

Basic education or primary education is the most initial form of educational level that is given to any person. It is the first stage in the long journey of learning and practicing. Before primary or school education, nursery or pre-school education is given. This can be at home or can also be in schools. After school education other levels of education are pursued. The criteria of school, college, primary and secondary education differ from one country to another country. Also, these terms have different names in different nations. For example, primary education in the United States of America is officially termed as ‘elementary education’.

Research Methodology

Population

All the students studying in government primary schools of Kohat City constituted the population of the study.

Delimitation of the Study

A study was delimited to the 5th class of government primary school PAF, Bazaar Kohat.

Sample

Fifty students of 5th class were taken as sample of the study.

Research Instrument

A test in the subject of mathematics was used as an instrument to collect information from the students of 5th class in the Government Primary School PAF Bazaar, Kohat.

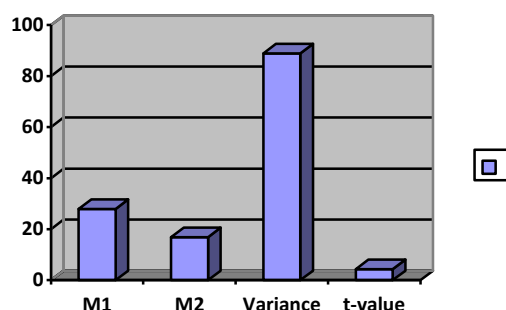
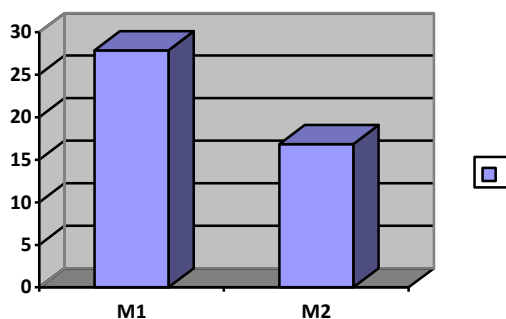
Results and Discussion

The study explored that that there is a significant difference between the students

having their mothers involved in their studies and the students who have not had any support from their mothers or whose mothers were illiterate.

Table 1: Significance of difference between the achievement of students whose mothers had a role in their studies and those whose mother role in their studies

M_1	M_2	Variance	t-value
27.87	16.83	88.92	4.33



M_1 = Mean Scores of achievement of those students whose mother's were involved with them in their studies.

M_2 = Mean Scores of achievement of those students whose mother's were not involved with them in their studies.

The above table indicates the t-value of 4.33 is greater than 2.58 and 1.96. It means that there is significant difference between the achievement of the students whose mothers were involved with them in their studies and those whose mothers were not involved with them in their studies.

Conclusion

It is concluded from the study that there is significant difference between the achievement of the students in the subject of mathematics whose mothers were involved in their studies and those students whose mothers were not involved with them.

Recommendations

Following recommendations are suggested in the light of the results of the study:

1. It is suggested that mothers may be motivated to help their children in their studies.
2. There should be teacher-parent conferences in the school.
3. The parents, especially mothers, may be asked to assist their children in taking examination.
4. The students may be given support in other subjects like English, science, Urdu, Physics, etc.
5. The teacher may prepare a list of educated persons and invite them to the school as resource persons.

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