

PROMOTION OF READING HABIT

(Reading Programmes: Ideas and strategies to promote reading among students)

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Education is perhaps the most important basic needs of modern society as it helps to mould a well informed, knowledgeable & responsible citizen who will be able to contribute to the progress & achievement. It is possible if we understand the importance of books & the habit of reading since the formative period of childhood.

Reading has at all times and in all ages been a source of knowledge, of happiness, of pleasure and even moral courage. In today's world with so much more to know and to learn and also the need for a conscious effort to conquer the divisive forces, the importance of reading has increased. Here we can state the two types of reading, one is serious reading and another is reading for pleasure. The serious reading undertaken for research and for satisfying one's longing for knowledge. It may be a subject of scientific significance, or a subject of historic or philosophic importance - varying according to the taste of the person. This kind of reading disciplines the mind and trains one for critical and original thinking. There is yet another kind of reading - reading for pleasure. Though serious reading is also a source of pleasure, reading which is devoted mainly to it differs in one respect. It grows upon one, it gives before demanding and it soothes and relieves tension and loneliness. The only kind of reading which neither stimulates thought nor provides knowledge is one which is approached negatively, with the simple motive of escape and of "killing" time. A person who is widely read is able to mix with others: he is a better conversationalist than those who do not read. He can stand his ground. Reading broadens the vision. It is in a way a substitute for travel. It is not possible to travel as much as one would like to and reading can fill in the gap created by the lack of travel. "Reading", as Bacon wrote in his essay. 'Of Studies'. "Reading make a full man: conference a ready man: and writing an exact man". Thus a widely-read man is a better conversationalist and is able to see the other point of view.

Interest of the students is the first and foremost factors which awake the curiosity and then the student involve in the process of reading and finally develop a reading habit. Thus We need to start more often to find out what their interests really are, finding great informatics books that will support and nurture those interests, and give them chances to explore information and read the books in their interest area. Understanding the interest of the children or student is not so much difficult task. Make a simple interest inventory and give it to them at the start of the school year. Pay attention to what sport or what type of activities the children is involve himself and highlight books in that area. Months before the science fair starts, get out lots of

science books and have students explore topics of interests to them. It builds background knowledge and enthusiasm for reading science. If children enjoy any festival or come across any event or situation, give them related books to explore knowledge.

As a school Librarian in KVS we do adopt many method/ activity/ programmes to create interest among the students to inculcate reading habit. Among the important activities like Reading day programmes, book review, Book talk, Talk to author, Book exhibition, celebration of National Library week, Readers Club activities etc carried out. Besides the above, the unique practices in my library to inculcate reading habit among the students are as follows:-

1. Assignment of project work:-

To promote reading of various resources and searching of information I use to assign the project work to the students of class VI to XII. Topics are selected as per the age group of students some times as per the interest of the students.. Each topic is assigned to a group of 4 to 5 students in each class. The topic are distributed in the month of April and asked to submit their project work after the winter break. The students are guided by me about how to search and gather information, what are the resources available, how to collect data, how to draft and how to compile the project work. If any students want to prepare any individual project work of his / her own interest topic he or she is allowed to do so. After submission of the project work I make it a hard bound book class wise.

OUTCOME :-

The students show interest to read different books, know how to collect proper information from various resources both online and offline, how to accumulate the data, how to drafted and compile the work.

2. Reading Practices in the Transition time between two period:-

To utilize the transition time between two period the class monitor has been issued books and he will call one students roll number wise to read the books in front of the class soon after the teachers leave the class and read till the next teachers enters to class. The other student's listen what he / she read. In the next transition period another student asked to do the same and it will continue till the last period. Likewise the reading activity will continue. The teacher when he/she enter to the class has to monitor whether the students are engaged in the reading activity or not.

OUTCOME :-

The students will remain busy in the reading activity and discipline of the class will restore. The students will enhance the reading and listening skills.

Conclusion

Developing the reading habit should go beyond mere pep talk. It is important to encourage the reading habit so that people grow mentally and fulfill their potential at every level. Reading helps to gain knowledge about the world, it opens eye to different perspectives and relaxes our mind, body and soul. Reading books not only improves a person's knowledge and wisdom but it gives a sense of pleasure. That is why Sir Richard Steel has rightly said "Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body".

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AUTHOR DECLARATION

I hereby declare that I am the sole author of the Article "**PROMOTION OF READING HABIT (Reading Programmes: Ideas and strategies to promote reading among students)**".

I have not plagiarized other than those mention as quotation and identified as reference. This is the original work of my own Ideas.

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LIBRARY PROJECT WORK



CLASS ROOM READING ACTIVITES

