

“Gender and Age Difference Study Habit of School Students: A Brief Survey”

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ABSTRACT

This study was aimed to measure the level of study habit among school students and to find out the significant difference in their level of study habit based on Gender as well as Age. Descriptive survey method was adopted for the present study. The investigator has prepared a questionnaire and standardized for the purpose. The scores achieved on the questionnaire give an idea whether the students possess good study habits or not. It also helped to know whether there is a need to develop these study skills. These factors are part of the questionnaire and through the questionnaire the study habit of school students were measured. A sample of 252 students from a school was used to conduct the survey. Sampling technique used was convenient random sampling. The results showed that there is a significant difference between Boys and Girls in their mean scores of study habit and also between different age groups.

KEYWORDS: Study Habit, Gender, and Age.

INTRODUCTION

Study habit are usually defined as student’s ability to manage time and other resources to complete an academic task successfully. Study habit is the amount and kind of studying routines which the student is used during a regular period of study occurred in a conducive environment.

DEFINITIONS OF STUDY HABIT

According to **Webster’s New World Dictionary** “Study” is the act or process of applying the mind in order to acquire knowledge, as be reading investigation, etc.[1]

The definition of study habit are the behaviours used when preparing for tests or learning academic material.

A person who waits until the very last night before an exam and then stays up all night trying to cram the information into his head is an example of someone with bad study habit. [2]

Study habit may then be defined, for all our practical purposes, as all activities regularly pursued in relation to school work.

Study Habit is described in line, which includes concentration, notes-taking, time budgeting and study techniques.

Few methods of developing good study habit:

1. Begin from the beginning: From the very beginning of their school career, the children should be stimulated to create a taste for reading by telling stories and recitation of children's poems.
2. Bold typed, illustrated and attractive books, charts and other material arouse their interest in reading.
3. Some credit for extra reading should be given to the students. This fact may be mentioned in their progress report or in assembly or in front of the entire class to motivate others and encouraging the child to keep up the good work.
4. In the Higher Secondary classes the students should be encouraged to use dictionary and reference books. Students should be asked off and on to write down the difficult words and their meanings from the textbooks as their home assignment.
5. Debates, public speaking contests should be organized from time to time so that the students may consult books or other materials for preparing themselves.
6. Essay competitions to be held.
7. Apart from central library, class room libraries may be organised.
8. The students can keep a log book in which summary of the books read by them should be recorded.
9. The school library and reading room should be well equipped, tastefully furnished, well lighted and ventilated in short the ambience of the library should be such that the students get attracted and encouraged to take advantage of it.
10. Books and periodicals should be suitably displayed to attract attention of students and teachers.
11. It is very desirable that class-libraries containing sufficient number of books on suitable topics be organised. Adequate library grant should be given for the purpose by the managements and the government. Parents can also help in equipping the library by donating books, periodicals, etc
12. There should be a provision for extra reading in the time table itself, so that students learn to sit quiet and study in the school hours itself.
13. The librarian should not be mere a person who gives and takes books mechanically, these days librarians are trained to read the stories or tell the stories effectively so that students gets motivated to visit the library and study or read.

Responsibility of the teachers

1. They should develop their own love for reading which will stimulate the students to develop good reading/study habit.
2. They should be well versed in children's literature so that they can suggest suitable books for the students.
3. Teachers should adopt such methods of teaching and give assignments in such a way as the students are encouraged to supplement their class work by extra reading.

Home Environment

Environment in the home profoundly affects the development of good study habit. A home, situated in peaceful and beautiful surroundings, where parents are educated and interested in all-round development of their children, where there are harmonious relationships among members of the family, where the individuality of the child is respected and where privacy and facilities exist for individual's study is obviously an ideal place for the promotion of good study habit.

Good economic condition of the parents is also one of the factors for promoting in the children reading habit in the form of newspapers, magazines, story books, etc.

Even parents with limited income can help their children possess their own library by presenting them books as gifts on birthdays and other festive occasions. These facts may be highlighted in parent teacher meetings. [3]

NEED FOR THE STUDY

The researcher wanted to study the level of study habit in early adolescents to know about how these students study at home. Their level of study habit is high or low? And to know whether boys have good study habits or girls? and whether age makes any difference? The results obtained will give an idea of their level of study habit and would help teachers, parents or students themselves whether to develop the study habit more or not.

The mobile phone which was earlier available at high cost and very low features. But now it is available in affordable price and hence even school children demand their parents for a mobile phone for them. Availability of mobile phones easily distracts the users. Especially children are glued to the games on it. So, the researcher wanted to study in amongst all these distractions whether the students are still following a time table to study? Advancement in technology led to many changes in lifestyle. These changes definitely affect the habit of studying among students.

Thus the researcher decided to make a research on "A brief survey on Study habit among school students of a CBSE School of Mannivakam area of Chennai district, Tamil Nadu" .

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

1. Suman Dalal, Manisha studied on "A Study of Home Environment in relation to Scientific Attitude, Study Habit and Emotional Maturity of Adolescents." ABSTRACT The Present investigation was to find out the relationship of home environment with scientific attitude, study habit and emotional maturity of 600 rural and urban- Punjab and

Haryana adolescents. Survey method of investigation was employed. The findings of the study showed that insignificant correlation is there between scientific attitude and home environment of rural as well as urban adolescents. Also insignificant correlation was obtained between study habit and home environment of rural as well as urban adolescents. Insignificant correlation was also obtained between emotional maturity and home environment of rural as well as urban adolescents.[4]

2. Chamundeswari, s., Sridevi, V., Archana Kumari has done a study on “Self-Concept, Study Habit and Academic Achievement of Students.” Abstract: The present study investigates the relationship between self-concept, study habit and academic achievement of students. Survey method is used to select a sample of 381 students at the higher secondary level. The Self-concept Inventory (Deo, 1985) is used to study self-concept, Study Habit Inventory (Gopal Rao, 1974) is used to assess study habit, and academic achievement marks scored by students in their quarterly examination were taken for academic achievement scores. The results of the statistical analyses show a significant correlation between self-concept, study habit and academic achievement of students. A significant difference is found between students at the higher secondary level in state, matriculation and central board schools, pertaining to self-concept, study habit and academic achievement. [5]

OBJECTIVES

1. To measure the level of Study Habit among the school students.
2. To find out the difference in Study Habit with respect to Gender.
3. To find out the difference in Study Habit with respect to Age.

HYPOTHESES

H1: The level of Study Habit is very high among the school students.

H2: There is no significant difference in the mean scores of Study Habit of students with respect to Gender.

H3: There is no significant difference in the mean scores of Study Habit of students with respect to Age.

Sample: A total of 252 students from standards VI, VII, VIII, and IX of a Private CBSE Board School were taken for the study.

Sampling Procedure: Convenient Random Sampling

Method: Descriptive Survey Method

Tools: Researcher prepared a questionnaire of 32 questions to measure the study habit among the students. The tool's reliability was established by test-retest method and validity was established by giving and getting feedback from the field experts. The reliability value of the questionnaire is 0.72.

Scoring and Interpretation of the tools: The response pattern for the tool is of Questionnaire type .i.e., two point scale only Yes or No. For positive statements the scoring is Yes=2 and No=1 and reverse in case of negatively worded statements .i.e., No=2 and Yes=1.

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

Data Analysis: 't' test to measure the difference between boys and girls and different ages.

H1: The level of Study habit is high among the school students.

Table No. 1. The level of study habit among the students.

Level of SH	No. of Students
Low level	-
Average level	5
High level	247
Total	252

From the Table No. 1 we can conclude that all the students have high level of study habit. Thus, the above framed Hypothesis is accepted.

H2: There is no significant difference in the mean scores of Study Habit with respect to Gender.

Table No. 2. Difference in Study Habit with respect to Gender.

Gender	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	't' value	Remarks
BOYS	129	85.8423	14.464	2.653	S
GIRLS	123	89.5939	6.259		

The calculated 't' value 2.653 in Table No. 2 is greater than the table value of 1.96 at 5% level of significance which means there is a significant difference between Boys and Girls in their study habit. Thus, the Null hypothesis is rejected.

H3: There is no significant difference in the mean scores of Study habit with respect to Age.

Table No. 3. Difference in the Study Habit with respect to Age.

AGE	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	't' value	Remarks
Between 10 and 12yrs	1073	83.8060	6.12157	2.365	S
Between 12 and 14yrs	1279	85.5047	6.00349		

The calculated 't' value 2.365 is greater than the table value of 1.96 and hence there is a significant difference between the age groups in their study habit. Thus, the Null hypothesis is rejected.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The result from the survey showed that there is a high level of Study Habit amongst the school children. The survey also brought into the notice that there is a significant difference exists between Boys and Girls in terms of their Study Habit. The mean value of Girls is higher than the Boys. It means Girls have good Study Habit when compared to Boys. The other result also showed that there is a significant difference found among the age groups in terms of study habit.

CONCLUSION

Study Habit is a good practice towards studying, that determines how well the students do academically. Good study habit right from young age will lay the foundation of sound academic performance in young learners' minds. When we know that the students have poor or bad study habit their academic achievement automatically becomes less. Thus, we can encourage students to develop a good study habit.

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