



# REVIEW OF RESEARCH

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## PLACE OF ART IN PRIMARY EDUCATION IN TELANGANA A STUDY

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### INTRODUCTION

#### What is Art?

Art is the process or product of deliberately arranging elements in a way that appeals to the senses or emotions. It encompasses a diverse range of human activities, creations, & modes of expression including music, literature, film, sculpture and paintings. The meaning of art is explored in a branch of philosophy known as 'aesthetics'.

Traditionally, the term art was to refer to any skill or mastery. Art came to be seen as 'a special faculty of human mind to be classified as with religion and science'. Generally art is made with the intention of stimulating thoughts and emotions.

The nature of art has been described by Richard Wollemler as 'one of the most elusive of the traditional problems of human cultures'.

"Art is the medium of expression of inner feelings". Art emerges in the life. It is appreciation of all pervading truth. An artist explains meaning of life through his skills. An artist explains meaning of life through his skills. Art in the initial stage is imitation. An artist tries to imitate things in the nature. His creation is the exact replica of the object. Imitation leads to creative imagination.



#### Art Education

An education provides opportunities for creative imagination exploration and experimentation. The value of art education is realized by many great philosophers like Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle etc.

They viewed art as an instrument for developing multi-dimensional personality. Such activities as scribbling, contemplation, writing movements and story telling, shaping the personality of the child.

#### Concept of Art in Education

The concept of teaching "Art" at primary level has been increasing over the past several years. Teaching children through art and the teaching of art has been gaining momentum. The reason for this could be the growing awareness among the educationists, psychiatrists and the therapists about what the learning of visual arts can do for the child. Art as a medium of self expression has helped many children to overcome many disabilities. But educational administrations have not yet been fully

convinced to accept that like any other subject, art education also can help the child to foster the intellectual discipline.

It is important to realize the strength of art education which normalizes behavior and helps to appreciate the natural values and beautifying human life. Today the scope of education has widened and so as the scope of free lance.

'Education', says Herbert Read, 'is the fostering of growth but apart from physical maturation, growth is only made apparent in expression of audible or visible signs and symbols'. It may therefore, be defined as the cultivation of models of expression. In art education it is not the painting or the sculpture which gets prizes that is important. It is not the product, but the process the expression, the beauty and the joy that one derives from this which should count most. Art education involves a sensitive mind, keen intellect, sound skill and creative imagination. There can be no art without skill and through there can be a skill without art. Art in a broader sense involves a desire to express in its best forms, seeks to control emotions and arranges them in an orderly manner.

Froebel emphasized that play is the highest expression of human development in the child, for its alone is the free expression of what is in the child's soul. Expression of human feelings creates sensuous imagination and intellectual forms, and human condition constitutes one of the creative powers or art. Art is an ordered sequence of learning experiences.

### Importance of art in education

Art expression increases feelings of high self-esteem and boost self confidence. Art education fosters creativity and imagination. The students who are "Kinesthetic" learners have an opportunity to optimize

Teaching by engaging in art activities. The imagination of each student is stimulated through art increasing the ability to solve the problems.

Students learn to express themselves using a variety of mediums that are a part of class room art programme. Art can be used to reinforce the educational process in almost every discipline. From counting and using fractions to spelling and increasing vocabulary, the learning experience can be enhanced through the use of colour, texture and design.

Art makes learning fun and can turn a dry lecture into a learning experience that a child will not soon forget. Art surrounds us at home, school work, play on holiday and even at rest on our bed when we dream and have beautiful images and many subjects. In the primary and secondary schools, art is the form of illustrations in story books and literature books to make reading more livid, art in the form drawings in the mathematics enable students to visualize problem.

### Essential Facilities at the Primary Stage

#### 1) Teachers Equipment

(a) Syllabus (b) Text books (c) Teachers Guides

#### 2) Class Room teaching materials

(a) Maps (b) District, State and Country (c) Plastic Globes  
(d) Educational charts

#### 3) Play materials and Educational Toys

(a) Wisdom Blocks (b) Surface tension (c) Bird & Animal Puzzle  
(d) Animal World (e) Balance & Weight  
(f) Magnets (g) Measuring tape

#### 4) Games Equipment

(a) Skipping Rope (b) Footballs, Volleyballs & Rubber balls  
(c) Air Pump (d) Ring

**5) Primary Science kit****6) Mini Tool Kit****7) Two in one Audio -Equipment****8) Books for Library**

(a) Reference Books- Dictionaries, Encyclopedia

(b) Children Books (At least 200)

(c) Magazines, journals and Newspapers for teachers and children

**9) Music Instruments**

(a) Dholak or Tabla

(b) Harmonium & Manjira

**10) Contingency Money and Teacher****11) All-weather Class Rooms**

(a) Class rooms (b) Toilets -one for boy one for girls(c) Mats and furniture's for students and teachers

**12) Black/ Green Chalk Boards****13) Chalk & Duster****14) Water and Facility****15) Trash can****16) Play ground****Role of Arts in Education**

Eric Jensen, a researcher, from Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, Alexandria (2001) wrote the book "Arts with the Brain in mind in which he debated the role of arts in education. In the late 1960's researchers in cognitive development began to turn their attention to arts education. Many researchers had published books and articles about the educative value of the arts.

He has compiled and reviewed that the brain and learning in which he stated that the arts are vital in educating our children and should be taught every day in our schools, just like language Arts, Maths, Science and Social studies. In his book he focuses on musical arts, visual arts and kinesthetic arts. He compares arts with essential curricular areas that should be studied every day

Jensen also suggests that teachers and parents introduce structurally & harmonically complex musical arts to their students and children. Arts have been found to affect IQ, Creative ability and other cognitive functions.

**Need for the Study**

The subject of art is not generally known in this country by this name, it is better known as drawing. The new nomenclature, 'Art' was used for the first time in the scheme of basic education and later the secondary education commission used this term. When one examines the present Indian education system, it is evident that art education is considered as a drill or an elective added to the real education. The importance of art education further hampered because the art subjects are usually of non examination subjects.

The neglect of arts in education impoverishes the educational process and leads to the decline of aesthetic tests and values. The education commission recommended that the Government of India should appoint a committee of experts to survey all possibilities for its extension and systematic development. To this effect Government of India appointed committee with Sri K.G. Saiyidian, as chairman to recommend several ways for improvement of art education. If one analyzes the existing Indian Education system in a stage wise manner, particularly the infant schools are rare and they are confined to only a few metropolitan and other big cities. But several educators in our country highlight the importance of primary education.

In recent days, in most of the places the private managements entered the domain of primary education by starting schools. The position or teaching of art education at primary level in these institutions is confined to some activities like music, dance, drawing, painting and a little modeling in clay. Undue importance has been given to the acquisition of certain skills while teaching these aspects in our primary schools. The teaching of techniques and concepts are unrelated to the need and comprehension of children. Keeping in view the importance of primary education as highlighted by any education by many education commissions including the International Education Commission i.e. learning to be, the parent-researcher is interested to study the opinions of the teachers regarding to the teaching of arts education at primary level in Karimnagar district.

### Importance of the study

Standing on the threshold of the twenty first century, we realize that it has to prepare them for the challenges of future. Many of the challenges will obviously be scientific and technological and our schools must be in a position to provide the young the tools to deal with them. Art education will help students to understand the abiding values in the human context. It will teach them to see and hear as well as read and write. It will help them to appreciate and enrich civilization by their insightful contributions.

Hence the present study helps in better understanding of the teacher's opinion with regard to the place of art at primary level. In primary schools art education is limited to mere drawing painting and a little of clay-modelling all most all educator have employed art as medium for the unification process. In their theories of education that's why we have to pay more attention towards the teaching of art at primary level because art expression in education would be a considerable use as it aims at the development of "whole man".

### The Arts in Primary Schools

National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) undertook research into arts in primary schools through a survey in 2002. The research aims were to Investigate.

- 1) The attitudes of head teachers and class teachers to the arts.
- 2) The human resources available for teaching the arts.
- 3) Perception of the purposes of arts education for primary school pupils.
- 4) Features that may enable or inhibit arts education.

Data was gathered through questionnaires sent to head teachers and designated year- group teachers in each of 1800 Schools. Responses were Received from 1013 schools. Some biases are assumed in the response, based on the belief that those more committed to the arts were more likely to have responded to the survey.

**Key Findings:** Many respondents expressed the view that there is pressure from Local of National Government Sources to downgrade the importance of arts. Support from parents and governors were perceived both by class and head teachers to be lower than that from within the school, but higher than that from local and national government. Often parental or governor support was believed to increase when they were able to see the arts in action in the school.

The most endorsed purposes for the teaching of the arts were to develop creative thinking skills, communication and expressive skills i.e., social development. There is evidence that identification of purposes for teaching the arts varies according to socio-economic context of schools.

### **National Arts Education Public Awareness-Feeds yours Kids the Arts**

The art are enriched with the stuff, kids need to succeed. Just like kids need to have good nutrition on daily basis, kids need to have daily serving of the arts.

Studies have shown that involvement in the arts helps kids increase test scores and promoted academic achievement. Kids who are involved in the arts are

- Four times more likely to be recognized for academic achievement.
- Three times more likely to be elected to class office within their schools.
- Four times more likely to participate in mathematics and science fairs.
- Three times more likely to win an award for school attendance.

The Arts Ask for More Public Service Advertising (PSA) campaign is designed to educate parents and citizens on why the arts are essential to a child's development and empower them to get more arty into kids, lives, both in and out of the school.

### **Art Education Facts**

- Art Education makes a tremendous impact on the developmental growth of every child and has been proven to help level the learning field across socio-economic boundaries.
- Art education builds a school climate of high expectation, discipline and academic rigour that attracts business relocating to your community.
- Art education can help in providing an alternative to destructive behaviour and another way for students to approach learning.
- Art education helps the child to develop a positive ethic.  
(Youth Arts Developmental Project 1996)

### **Highlights from Key National Research on Art Education**

A study on art education reveals a powerful positive relationship between studying the arts and other academic subjects, attitudes and behaviors.

Arts teach are not measured in typical tests and research in arts education has further to go to develop an ever more detailed understanding of how the arts work to enhance children's learning. Different art forms have been researched to different degrees. For instance, the visual arts are the most commonly offered in our schools but are the least researched.

The arts are disciplines of study in themselves with their own histories and practices, yet they are also increasingly recognized for the ways that promote learning for various children and in various ways,

**More findings:** The findings reveal some of the power of arts to affect other academic subjects, attitudes and behaviours among pre-school, general K-12 and at-risk populations of students.

Findings are presented by art form to help you navigate the many insights into the power of arts in education, (Arts at the Core of Learning-1999 initiative)

### **Standard for Art Education**

'Standards' in American education define what students should know and be able to do in any given academic discipline. National standards in the arts (Dance, music, theater, visual arts) have developed to provide a guide and resource to states and school districts that want to develop their own standards.

National Standards for Arts Education were developed in 1994 by experts in education and the arts. They describe that the child should know complete, sequential education in the arts and are able to do at various grade levels in each artistic discipline. The 1997 National Assessment for Educational Progress was developed in coordination with these national standards.

Most states have standards in place for arts education at primary level and other are still in the process of developing arts standards. In other states, the standards are voluntary. Most sets of standards are for dance, music theatre and visual arts, and for all grades, but this varies from state to state and district to district (What are the Standards for Art Education?)

### The Role of Art in Developing Children's Creativity

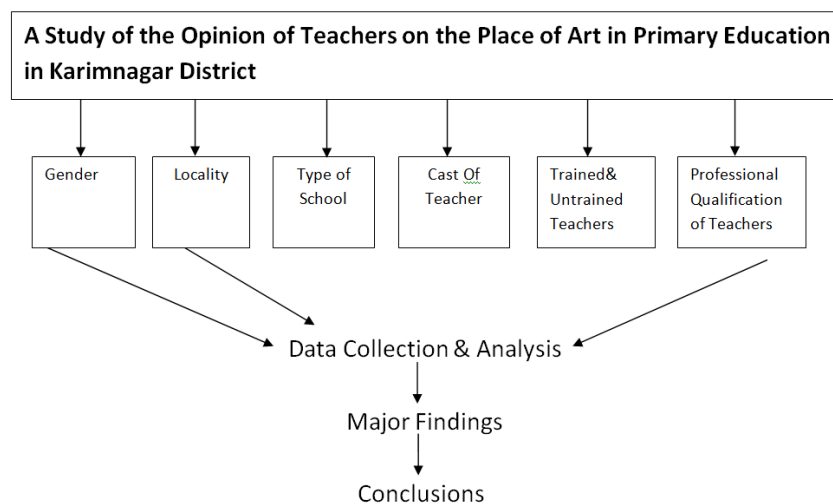
Art in primary school able to select with confidence will considered wardrobes of clothes, cooler schemes, furniture or simply aesthetically pleasing greeting cards, throw out our lives. We see the product of art everyday in advertising televisions and magazines as well as in countless other objects which abound in the environment.

If primary teachers intend to provide a well planned and balanced education for their pupils so that they can go on to enjoy a full and

### Design of the study

In this study an attempt is made to know how certain demographic factors such as gender, locality, type of school, caste, trained & untrained teachers, and professional qualifications of the teachers, influence the opinion of teachers on the place of art in primary education in Karimnagar District.

The following is the diagrammatic representation of the study showing Different variable.



### OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The specific objectives of the study are as follows:

- To study the opinion of the teachers working in the primary schools.
- To study the physical facilities such as type of the classroom, management and qualifications of teachers working in primary schools.
- To study the material facilities available for imparting art education in the primary schools.
- To study the relationship, if any between the teachers gender, academic qualifications and the type of management in which they are working to the opinions expressed by them on the role of art in primary education.
- To know whether the art education helps in generating, developing and directing the creative aptitude among the children to participate in the global awareness.

## Methodology

There are different methods of educational research that are commonly used. The choice of methodology is largely dependent on the objectives of a study and the strategy adopted to achieve them. In this study the normative survey method of research was selected.

## Development of the Tool

As the present study intends to know the opinions of teachers on the place of art in primary education in Karimnagar, and in the order to collect the necessary information on the above aspect a tool has been developed by the researcher herself. After a through review of the literature available in the area, the present researcher identified some basic facilities needed to impart primary education through the medium of art. The same were referred to the few experts in the area for their opinions. After knowing the opinions of experts, the minimum facilities required and materials supposed to be present in the primary schools were identified. The final form of the tool consists of two parts. The first part helps us to get the personal data of the respondents (Teachers) the Second part helps us to know the opinions of the teachers on the importance of art education at the primary level including the facilities and materials available for teaching of arts in the primary schools.

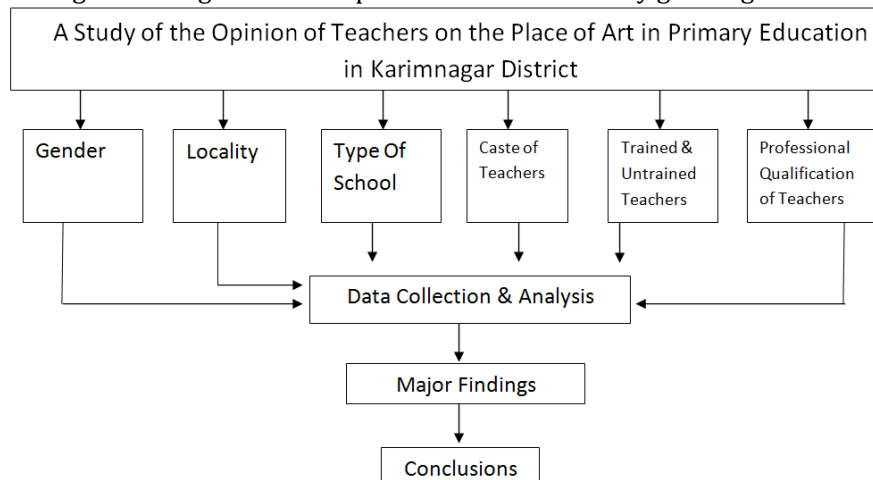
The reliability and validity are essential to the effectiveness of any data gathering procedure. Reliability is the degree of consistency that the procedure demonstrates in whatever is measuring, it does so consistently The validity is the quality of a date gathering instrument that enables it to measures what it is supposed to measure.

A pilot study was conducted by administrating the developed tool to a small sample of teachers working in primary schools of various managements in order to established its validity and reliability. The tool developed by the investigator found valid after the pilot study. It reveals that the items incorporated were good in eliciting the information what they were intended for. The reliability of the tool established by administrating it, the data was analyzed. Thus the responses are stable and trustworthy and the tool developed was found reliable.

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The following is the diagrammatic representation of the study growing different variables.



### 5.6.0. Variables of the Study

As the present study is to know the opinions of teachers on the place of art in primary education in Karimnagar District, the following dependent and independent variables have been identified for the investigation.

#### Variables with Reference to Teachers

Independent Variables	Dependent Variable
Gender	Opinion of teachers on the place of art in primary education on Karimnagar District.
Locality	
Type of School	
Caste of Teachers	
Trained & Untrained Teachers	
Professional Qualifications of Teachers	
Govt. & Private Teachers with B.ED	
Govt. & Private Teachers with TTC	

### 5.9.0. Statistical Techniques Used

After collection of the data, it is analyzed with the help Chi-Square ( $\chi^2$ ) test to interpret the data.

1) Chi-Square Test for 2 x 2 contingency table

$$\chi^2 = \frac{N(AD-BC)^2}{(A+B)(C+D)(A+C)(B+D)}$$

### FINDINGS

- The present study revealed a number of findings which were described in detail
- Majority of the government schools are not having sufficient classrooms for imparting primary education.
- It is interesting to note that almost all the government schools are equipped with minimum facilities including the required material for imparting the art education.

#### Findings of the Study

- It is interesting to note that the study clearly presents that the teachers with TTC have more positive opinion than the teachers with B.Ed.
- It is further revealed that the women teachers expressed more positive opinions on the place of art in primary education than men teachers.
- Very few teachers are satisfied with the available facilities at their respective schools.

### 5.11.0. CONCLUSION

There is an immediate need to reorganize the primary education in order to give an aesthetic orientation. The Government should take every care in equipping schools under its control with the facilities and materials needed for imparting art education. The private management schools too should do a lot in the way of equipping their institutions with the needed infrastructural facilities for imparting art education. In all the management schools, the teachers should be given total freedom to teach in accordance with the children's interests and attitudes.

Necessary facilities are to be developed to impart the requisite pre-service and in-service training programmes in arts for the teachers working in the primary schools. While recruiting the teachers for primary education preference may be given to the women and trained teachers. On the



whole a lot is to be done in enriching the primary education to prepare the young children in a right order to pursue further education in its clear perspective.

#### 5.12.0. Suggestions for Administrators

→ All the teachers of the schools may be sent to seminars and awareness programmes about art education.

→ Children must be provided with suitable environment to learn art education by the teachers, parents and the society.

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