A Study on the Influnece of Environmental Education Implemented in Middle School Level with Regarding Knowledge and Skill

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ABSTRACT *The study was conducted on 606 middle school students to study their influence of environmental education implemented in middle school level with regarding Knowledge and Skills. A self made questionnaire was used to collect the data which was treated with statistical techniques. Results revealed that significant variation in the influence of environmental education Knowledge and Skills with to their gender, location of students, type of school and class of middle school students.*

INTRODUCTION

Since evolution man has been a part and parcel of his environment. As time passed, the development of science and technology alienated him from the environment. Owing to the greedy actions of over consumption of natural resources, and artificial sophistication of lifestyle, mankind faced threats like pollution, acid rain, global warming etc and then only it realized that the very existence and future of human race itself rests in the way of adopting an eco- friendly life style and as well as in environment conservation . Realization of the goals stated earlier is possible only through environmental education.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Environmental education is learning process that increases people's knowledge and awareness about the environment and associated challenges, develops the necessary skills and expertise to address the challenges, and fosters attitudes, motivations and commitments to make informed decisions and take responsible action.

TITLE OF THE STUDY

A STUDY ON THE INFLUNECE OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION IMPLEMENTED IN MIDDLE SCHOOL LEVEL WITH REGARDING KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The present study sought to accomplish the following objectives.

To find out the difference, if any, in the level of influence of Environmental Education in middle school level with respect to gender in terms of Knowledge and Skills.

To find out the difference, if any, in the level of influence of Environmental Education in middle school level with respect to the locality of the students in terms of Knowledge and Skills.

To find out the difference, if any, in the level of influence of Environmental Education in middle school level with respect to the type of school in terms of Knowledge and Skills.

To find out the difference, if any, in the level of influence of Environmental Education in middle school level with respect to their standard of study in terms of Knowledge and Skills.

HYPOTHESIS OF THE STUDY

The following are the hypotheses of the study.

There is no significant difference in the level of influence on Environmental education between Boys and Girls in middle school level in terms of Knowledge and Skills.

There is no significant difference in the level of influence on Environmental education between rural and urban middle school students in terms of Knowledge and Skills.

There is no significant difference in the level of influence on Environmental Education among the middle school students studying in Government, Aided and Private schools in terms of Knowledge and Skills.

There is no significant difference in the level of influence on Environmental Education among the 6th, 7th and 8th standard students in terms of Knowledge and Skills.

RESEARCH METHOD

The present study aims at identifying the knowledge and skills of environmental education in middle school students. The present study used normative survey method. Questionnaires are the major tools used to collect relevant data from the students of middle schools in Tiruchirappalli District.

POPULATION AND SAMPLE

The present study covers the middle school students in Tiruchirappalli District. The total sample selected for this study is 606 and these samples were selected from 26 middle schools by means of simple random sampling technique.

STATISTICAL TECHNIQUES

Questionnaire is used for this study. The data collected were tabulated and analyzed in a proper way statistical techniques and inferential analysis. The following statistical techniques were used in the study.

Mean and standard deviation.
't' test for determining the significance of difference between two-sub groups variables.

'F' test (ANOVA) to find out the significance of variance among the sub groups variables.

HYPOTHESIS TESTING
Hypothesis: 1
There will be no significant difference in the level of influence on Environmental Education between Boys and Girls in middle school level in terms of Knowledge and Skills.

Table: 1
Influence of environmental education difference between the boys and girls middle school students.

Dependent Variable	Independent variable	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	't' value	Level of significant
Knowledge	Boys	303	29.08	12.11	3.626	0.01
	Girls	303	32.77	12.91		
Skills	Boys	303	26.31	11.80	3.115	0.01
	Girls	303	29.38	12.21		

The above table reveals that the obtained't' value 3.62 is greater than the table values 1.96 at 0.05 level and 2.58 at 0.01 levels. So it is found that the't' value is significant at 0.01 levels for knowledge of environmental education.

The above table reveals that the obtained't' value 3.56 is greater than the table values 1.96 at 0.05 level and 2.58 at 0.01 levels. So it is found that the't' value is significant at 0.01 levels for skills of environmental education.

It also infers that the girls are having high level of environmental education knowledge and skills than the boys.

Hypothesis: 2
There will be no significant difference in the level of influence on Environmental education between school locality of rural and urban middle school students in terms of Knowledge and Skills.

Table: 2
Influence of environmental education difference between school locality of Rural and Urban middle school students.

Dependent Variable	Independent variable	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	't' value	Level of significant
Knowledge	Rural	300	27.82	10.943	6.162	0.01
	Urban	306	33.97	13.460		
Skills	Rural	300	24.81	10.316	6.314	0.01
	urban	306	30.83	12.965		

The above table reveals that the obtained t-value 6.16 is greater than the table values 1.96 at 0.05 level and 2.58 at 0.01 levels. So it is found that the't' value is significant at 0.01 levels for knowledge of environmental education.

The above table reveals that the obtained t-value 6.31 is greater than the table values 1.96 at 0.05 level and 2.58 at 0.01 levels. So it is found that the't' values is significant at 0.01 levels for skills of environmental education.

It infers that there is a significant difference between the Rural and Urban middle school students in terms of knowledge and skills. Hence, the stated null hypothesis "There will be no significant difference between Rural and Urban middle school students in terms of Knowledge and Skills of Environmental education" is rejected and the alternative hypothesis is accepted.

It also infers that the school locality of urban middle school students is having high level of knowledge and skills of Environmental Education than the rural students.

Hypothesis: 3
There will be no significant difference in the level of influence on Environmental Education among the middle school students studying in Government, Aided and Private schools in terms of Knowledge and Skills.

Table: 3
Influence of environmental education significant variance among the students studying in Government, Aided and Private middle schools.

Dependent Variable	source	df	Sum of square	Mean square	'F' ratio	Level of sig
Knowledge	Between Groups	2	3478.33	1739.17	11.239	.001
	With in Groups	603	93314.75	154.75		
	Total	605	96793.08			
Skills	Between Groups	2	2970.32	145.16	10.461	.001
	With in Groups	603	85606.30	141.96		
	Total	605	88576.63			

The above table reveals that the obtained 'f' value 11.23 is greater than the table values 1.96 at 0.05 level and 2.58 at 0.01 levels. So it is found that the 'f' value is significant at 0.01 levels for knowledge of environmental education.

The above table reveals that the obtained 'f' value 6.19 is greater than the table values 1.96 at 0.05 level and 2.58 at 0.01 levels. So it is found that the 'f' value is significant at 0.01 levels for skills of environmental education.

The above the table shows that the significant variance among the students studying in Government, Aided and Private middle school students in terms of Knowledge and Skills of Environmental Education. It found that the 'f' value is significant at 0.001 levels for Knowledge and Skills of Environmental Education. Hence, the null hypothesis is "there will be no significant variance among the students studying in Government, Aided and Private middle school in terms Knowledge and Skills of Environmental Education is rejected and the alternative hypothesis is accepted.

Hypothesis: 4
There will be no significant difference in the level of influence on Environmental Education among the 6th, 7th and 8th standard students in terms of Knowledge and Skills.

Table: 4
Influence of environmental education significant variance among 6th, 7th and 8th standard middle school students in terms of knowledge and skills.

Dependent Variable	Source	df	Sum of square	Mean square	'F'ratio	Level of sig
Knowledge	Between Groups	2	47780.78	22890.39	270.580	.001
	With in Groups	603	51012.30	84.59		
	Total	605	96793.08			
Skills	Between Groups	2	39044.51	19522.25	237.662	.001
	With in Groups	603	49532.12	82.14		
	Total	605	88576.63			

The above table reveals that the obtained 'f' value 270.58 is greater than the table values 1.96 at 0.05 level and 2.58 at 0.01 levels. So it is found that the 'f' value is significant at 0.01 levels for knowledge of environmental education.

The above table reveals that the obtained 'f' value 237.66 is greater than the table values 1.96 at 0.05 level and 2.58 at 0.01 levels. So it is found that the 'f' value is significant at 0.01 levels for skills of environmental education.

The above table shows that the significant variance among 6th , 7th and 8th standard middle school students in terms of knowledge and skills on environmental education. It is found that the 'f' value is significant at 0.001 levels for knowledge and skills on environmental education. Hence the null hypothesis is "There will be no significant variance among the 6th, 7th and 8th standard middle school students in terms of Knowledge and Skills of Environmental Education" is rejected

FINDINGS OF THE STUDY
There is a significant difference between the Boys and Girls of middle schools in terms of Knowledge and Skills of Environmental Education.

There is a significant difference between the Rural and Urban middle school students in terms of Knowledge and Skills of Environmental Education.

There is a significant variance among the middle school students studying in Government, Aided and Private schools in terms of Knowledge and Skills of Environmental Education.

There is a significant variance among the 6th, 7th and 8th standard school students in terms of Knowledge and Skills of Environmental Education.

CONCLUSION
Clean environment is one of the most important of our life style. The environment knowledge influences the quality of life of an individual, the family, the nation and the world. Environment also affects the health, particularly more of children, and it reduces the life time. Hence there is an urgent need to develop more environmental knowledge and skills of environmental education among the students of all levels in future.

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