Original Research Paper

Education

EFFECT OF TECHNOLOGY ON CHILD DEVELOPMENT

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ABSTRACT The beginning of 21st century has witnessed tremendous development in the field of science and technology. Consequently, technology has been able to deliver tremendous power in the hands of human beings in terms of access, speed, accuracy, precision, control, manipulation and prediction in almost all areas. At present in the area of agriculture, industry, trade, commerce, medicine, transport, communication, law and order, banking, entertainment, politics, art and aesthetics even if warfare or human relationships etc, technology has provided a significant breakthrough. Technology has brought many great things to use. Most of the time, technology helps us things quicker and easier. The smart phone, tablets, personal computer, laptop and video games are used now days. Our life is surrounded by technology and our children are also using it at home, at school and everywhere. Our children learn many things we have not even dream about it right now. The present paer highlights about the positive and negative effects of technology on child development.

INTRODUCTION:

The beginning of 21st century has witnessed tremendous development in the field of science and technology. Consequently, technology has been able to deliver tremendous power in the hands of human beings in terms of access, speed, accuracy, precision, control, manipulation and prediction in almost all areas. At present in the area of agriculture, industry, trade, commerce, medicine, transport, communication, law and order, banking, entertainment, politics, art and aesthetics even if warfare or human relationships etc, technology has provided a significant breakthrough. Technology has brought many great things to use. Most of the time, technology helps us things quicker and easier. The smart phone, tablets, personal computer, laptop and video games are used now days. Our life is surrounded by technology and our children are also using it at home, at school and everywhere. Our children learn many things we have not even dream about it right now.

Negative Effects Of Technology:

1. Lower Attention Span:

Teacher, parents and students themselves find that technology can have a direct impact on attention span. The immediacy of technological interactions makes waiting harder for children. With technology, they are not forced to wait. The students don't get bored because they always have something to entertain. Technology moves fast, instant responses and instant gratification are impacting attention span for young children and teenagers.

2. Increase Risk And Lack Of Privacy:

Teenagers and children have grown up in a technology world. Cyber security is a huge element of technology today, but it is not always perfect. Hackers and criminals can utilize technology to steal identities and harass children. Technology has created an increase of theft, privacy issues, harassment and more. The IT industry is in need of Cyber Security professionals who can help make technology safer for children.

3. Risk Of Depression :

Teenagers and children who report more time using media are more likely to also report mental health issues. Depression is a key issue that is correlated with more media use. This has increased suicide rates and has lead to more youth needing mental health interventions like medicine and counseling. Experts believe time spent on social media or using technology can directly be tied to increased depressions.

4. Obesity:

Children who spent more time inside on their phones or tablets don't spend as much time running and playing outside. They established habit of technology use that doesn't involve exercise. This can lead to increased obesity rates in children and young adults.

5. Falling Grades :

Many students today can see their grade or performance take a hit when they spend more time with technology. Increasing technology usage means less time spent on home work. The kind of development changes technology can bring can make students struggle with home work like reading and writing.

6. Bullying:

As technology flourishes, so does bullying. The children and teens are using technology and social media to bully other kids, without having to face them. Often called cyber bullying, this trend is increasing and getting more popular with even younger students.

7. Social Interaction Issues:

With more time spent on technology, younger children are having issues with face-to-face social interactions. Many seem to prefer to text or talk on social media as opposed to talking to each other in person. Even when children spend time together, they may spend more time texting or on their phones that actually being together. While there are many negative impacts that can be connected to technology use.

8. Relationship And Social Skills Issues:

Children are using mobile devices more and more. They become addicted to this, not spending enough time with their family and friends. They are more likely to be virtually connected with friends, sharing photos and texting online than actually meeting them in person. The new generation is growing up playing games online, chatting online on facebook, sharing photos on instagram and snapchat and so on. It doesn't mean that spending time online is a bad thing, but spending too much time online can really weaken the bond between the parents and the child.

9. Health Problem:

The overuse of mobile devices can be harmful to children's health. The more they use mobile devices, the less physical activities they do. The problem is that playing games online is combined with snacking, substituting the balanced alimentation. As children spend more time in front of those screens, most of the time in the couch, less time they spend outside playing, running and burning off calories. Overtime, those habits can lead to a significant weight gain.

Positive Effects Of Technology:

1. Improves Problem Solving And Decision Making Ability:

Technology often presents children with problems, and helps them learn how to make decisions and solve those problems. Games and apps on tablets or smartphones can help give children the practice they need to find success down road. Many homes have multiple television sets, computers, tablets and phones for children to find and play with. Some children have access to their own tablets and phones. When students wisely use technology they can reap huge rewards.

2. Facilitate Learning:

There are many educational elements of technology that can help children to learn. From T.V. programming to apps on a smart phone or tablets, there are many things that children can be exposed to that can help develop their mind and teach them new things.

3. Classroom Tool :

Many teachers have started using technology in classrooms to help students learn. Technology helps teachers reach different kinds of learners, reinforce and expand on concepts. Technology motivates students in new ways. As more teachers embrace technology, new kids of learning can take place in classrooms, and more students can be

reached in ways that they relate with.

4. Preparing For Future Technical Careers:
As technology continues to grow and flourish, there will be more demand for professionals ready to take on technology careers. When children start getting excited about technology and the potential it offers them from a young age, they are more prepared for their future and the possibilities it offers. Children can start getting technological skills early that they shall need in the future. If you are young student who has the technological background you need for an IT career, consider on IT degree to build your credentials and get you started on the path.

5. Improved Multi-tasking:
Students show that using technology helps young children learn how to multitask more effectively. While multitasking never allows you to fully focus on one area, students can learn how to listen and type to take notes or other multitasking activities that can help them succeed on their future.

6. Improves Visual-Spatial Development:
Spatial development can be greatly improved when technology like video games is used to help train young students and children. Practicing visual-spatial skills with video-games can be a great way to improve abilities. Visual spatial skills are needed in a variety of things like map, reading, puzzles and more

Parents and adults can help children get the benefits of technology with less of the negative effects. Parents should also work to set appropriate boundaries including time limits and model good smart phone use. Cyber security, software and systems can help ensure that kids stay safe while using technology.

Parents and teachers can watch for quality apps that promote vocabulary, math, literacy and science. Adults can help make sure kids learn about computer science and IT as part of technology use to give them opportunities for a bright future. Technology when used correctly, can actually have a very positive effect on child's development.

7. Critical Thinking :
Technology has direct effect on child's development of critical thinking. Critical thinking can be developed through conversation expansion; children learn to build on conversations by referencing past experience or things they have read.

CONCLUSION:
Technology is a good servant but a bad master. If used in the appropriate way technology can bring colossal development in human life. If it is used in the wrong way it will lead to social disharmony and spoil the life of the youth and the children. Hence, the effect of technology can be dual and multisided.

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