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Creativity and role of Teacher & Parent

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Nanded.

Introduction

Creativity is essentially a human phenomenon. Creativity is latent almost in everyone. Creativity is basically a response of an individual to a particular opportunity. It implies a vision to be translated into actions. Enhancing creativity is the most certain way of uniting mankind.

Defining Creativity

In the past few decades there has been an enormous amount of research and writing on the topic of creativity. Many approaches to the study of creativity have appeared, and creativity's relationship to hundreds of other variables has been examined. The outpouring of the research and theorizing about creativity has left the topic fragmented. There is still no consensus about how to define or measure creativity. Colloquial usage of term 'creativity' is one source of problem. According to Guilford (1964) creativity involves divergent thinking with respect to the traits of fluency, flexibility and originality of thought process.

Role of the Teacher

The role of the teacher in education of creative child is very significant and requires hard work, dedication and commitment on the parts of the teacher towards his profession. A resourceful creative teacher is necessary to promote creativity. Creativity flourishes in a rich and varied environment having freedom to benefit from the environment in their own ways. Thus, authoritarian attitude of the teacher can be hazardous not only for the creative student but to all other students too. A suitable environment created by the school authorities to develop creativity cannot produce good results until the teacher performs his duties sincerely and honestly.

1. The learner occupies an important position in teaching learning process. His needs, capabilities, motivation and goal attain supreme position. Thus, there exists a need to apply dynamic methods and strategies of teaching. The dynamic methods of teachings are learner oriented and special emphasis is laid on the learners need and pace of progress.
2. The teacher should ensure that the timetable should never be rigid and also should not insist on set standards. There should be free exchange of ideas between students and teachers in the classroom.
3. The objectives of the creative teaching should be clearly defined and followed by the teacher in the classroom.
4. There should be free time for meditation and incubation of ideas. The teacher should plan and implement a timetable which leaves ample room for free time and extra-curricular activities.
5. The teacher must plan his lesson well with the help of inspiring questions and present it in an effect manner with the help of charts, maps, models, and experiments etc. in order to inculcate interest and motivation among students toward self-learning.

6. The teacher must recognise and appreciate every effort or action of the child which leads to the solutions of the problem.
7. The teacher should avoid passing 'killer remarks' to the student because such remarks may disturb the thought process, emotional and social development of the child.
8. The teacher should exhibit patience and emotional balance in dealing with the creative student. He should not lose temper to the uncommon act or behaviour shown by the creative child which is unacceptable generally in our value system. This is not possible until the teacher has clear cut knowledge of the characteristics features as well as traits possessed by the creative child.
9. The teacher should constantly or regularly inform to the parents of the creative child about his achievements and requirements. They must also provide guidance to parents for further enhancing their potentials.
10. The teacher should also regularly inform to the school authorities about the needs and requirements of this group for further development.

Role of the Parents

It is well recognised fact that home is the first school of the child. Parents exert great influence on the child's personality development and set the pattern of behaviour. Rearing of the creative child is not an easy job rather it is the most difficult and challenging task and requires constant involvement of parents in satisfying the intellectual needs of creative behaviour. The parents must have the sufficient knowledge of the characteristics features of the intellectually gifted and the creative child. Training of the parents is essential to develop in them skills to handle to gifted child. Following roles are expected from the parents of creative child.

1. Parents should provide stimulation through a rich environment which is a universal recipe in the education for creative expression and interpretation of experience.
2. The creative child should be given freedom from completely structured situation which gives the child little opportunity for creative endeavour. The parents should understand that setting endless tasks for the child to perform, asking for illustration rather than free expression in art forms, leave the child little opportunity to explore his own world of imagination, dream and aspiration. Thus, hidden potentials of the creative child are remained dormant throughout their life.
3. Recognition should be given to the child in the family and each creative behaviour or activity must be appreciated and encouraged by the parents. The psychological principle of reinforcement through reward is applied here and is a major tool in developing intrinsic motivation to take initiative to create unique or novel solutions of the problem.
4. Emotional development has tremendous influence in the disposition of any personality. Therefore, it is necessary to be careful about its development in the child. The parents should watch for feelings expressed in different situation to assess the emotional growth of the child. A psychological safe environment is the prime need for the development of creative talent.
5. Parents are also required to ensure proper healthcare of the child and provide an environment which is free from all kinds of tensions and fear of failure.
6. Lastly, parents must also exhibit high level of tolerance in their behaviour and should not demonstrate rigidity, dogmatism, conformity and stereotyping in their attitude which are generally considered as the stumbling blocks of creativity.

Any system of education which emphasises rigid educational patterns with heavy load of home work and little opportunity to express opinion or idea in a free atmosphere can never be conducive for developing creative talents. There is an urgent need to revamp the school education system for making it more favourable for the creative and the gifted person so that the abilities of this group can be for developmental aspects of the society and the country.

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