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SIGNIFICANCE OF THEATRE ARTS IN SCHOOL EDUCATION

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Abstract

Teaching through drama in school education and designing of school curriculum using theatre arts. Theatre arts is a tool for making more effective use of teaching aids, personality development and increasing Self Confidence of school student through theatre arts Qualitative & Quantitative Research Methodology of theatre arts to the field of school education. The role of dance and music in school education comparison with theatre arts. Schools of Hyderabad & Secunderabad who adopted teaching of Dramatic. The value of “Drama “are many, but its use in the classroom teaching has yet to find a rightful place in our schools his creative ability and imagination are not given any importance or exposure by the Teacher Thus his power of analysis, logical thinking, understanding of human beings. Moreover, the whole learning system in our country is focusing on “Examinations” only, there is a pressure of examination on both students and their teachers. Use of drama in classroom teaching is a corrective way to such tendencies and improve quality teaching. India is a country of diversities in languages, culture, Traditions etc. thus involves the students in experimental, expressive and communicative modes of action. A teaching method to technologies and the countries continuity of cultural tradition.

Keywords: Theatre Arts, Qualitative, Quantitative, Self Confidence, Drama.

Introduction

How does drama help in teaching and learning? In schools the student is meant to develop their creativity and personality. These two aspects play a major role I school education and helps student further in their life. The drama teaches these two aspects in a very simple and easy method. As mentioned in the book creative drama and puppetry in education by Mehar. R. contractor. Creative drama is story dramatization and play making, in simple it is an informal drama in which plays are developed with improvised dialogues and action.

In student imposing something and making to do that is not a correct process. We need to set them free and know the student the student will come out with many creative ideas.

Their level of creativity is unexpected. Because, the student’s nature is enthusiastic, craving for knowledge and learning, want to crate many things what they know. This helps student to develop their skills in various methods for learning and knowing the things in much better way.

The Value of Drama in the Classroom

The value of ‘Drama’ is many, but its use in the classroom teaching has yet to find a rightful place in our schools. The present-day situation in our schools has not changed for the betterment of classroom instruction. The teacher carries an old dry and drab methods of teaching, where the student is a passive listener only. His creative ability and imagination are not given any importance or exposure by the teacher. He is at the receiving end and acquires all information from the teacher. His participation in the classroom teaching is almost negligible. Thus, his power of analysis, logical thinking, understanding of human beings, events and situations do not find any place in a ‘teacher oriented’ authoritative classroom.

Drama is Teaching Tool for Student

Moreover, the whole learning system in our country is focusing on “Examinations” only. There is a pressure of examinations on both the students and their teachers. Student thus do not find their subjects interesting. If some colour is given to the classroom instructions, surely students would find teaching more meaningful and interesting. Drama can serve this purpose and hence it should be used as a teaching tool for student pressure of examinations on both students and their parents resulting in the mushroom growth of teaching shops, coaching houses and factories in our cities instead of ‘Quality Schools’. Nothing has been achieved by way of school system which can provide ‘Total Development’ to its students.



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Use of drama in classroom teaching is a corrective way to such tendencies and can improve quality teaching. It can present and lower down dropouts. Using drama in classroom teaching can also cultivate interest in students for a particular subject (e.g., Mathematics, Geography, History etc..)

Drama is the best art form which can fulfil the task of developing sensitivity of beauty, harmony and refinement. It consists of both individual and group sensitivity. It is a platform for free expression to student of various Socio-Economic back grounds where they all unite and perform, thus promoting social and emotional integration.

India is a country of diversities in languages, culture, traditions etc., Drama provides student to minimize these diversities and bring about ‘National Integration.’

Drama has a twofold task in making learning purposeful and enjoyable experience.

- I.Student learn while ‘Playing’ different roles.
- II.Student learn while ‘Doing’ the dramatic activity.

There is a great need of making learning a pleasant and enjoyable experience for student. Since drama depends upon individual emotions and feelings, it gives free expression to the child, it accelerates his/her motivation to explore new ideas and knowledge, thereby bringing changes in student pursuit for new knowledge and learning. Such change is not possible through conventional classroom teaching methods. At the primary level participation in the dramatic process thus involves the student in experimental, expressive and communicative modes of action.

Hence, drama must be recognized as ‘Subject’ in the modern curriculum and a teaching method to bring about fine synthesis between change-oriented technologies and the countries continuity of cultural tradition.

Drama Through Personality Development

- i. **Personal development:** Self-expression, social interaction and communication, self-confidence, self-assertiveness, free from inhibitions, respect for each individual, heading towards equality of human beings.
- ii. **A means of acquiring social health:** Drama being cathartic in nature, freedom of responses especially useful for physically handicapped and mentally or emotionally disturbed student, drama is useful for therapeutic purpose.
- iii. Drama as a method of teaching, stimulating and achieving powerful learning resulting in lowering the rate of dropouts at the elementary level, a method to increase literacy rate, adding realistic colour to develop interest in student in the learning process.
- iv. **Drama as an art form:** an integrated approach to education preserving and enriching India’s rich cultural heritage and also culture of its traditional arts.

Play is always a source of motivation for learning as well as a venue by which one learns. Play gives an excitement and thrill to student. They find fun, freedom and feeling of friendliness in play. Thus, they take play seriously as it is a way of pursuing their goals. Student have a natural desire to express what they see around themselves, the behaviour and life styles of their elders, animals and pets in their neighbourhood—drama provides them this opportunity.

They ‘play’ different roles where they have an opportunity to release their emotions and fulfil their desire of imitating others. The child talks to himself taking the identity of many characters, the adult mentally rearranges the conversation which has just taken place in an attempt to resolve an outcome favourable to himself.

Creative Drama is Teaching Learning Tool for Students.

Drama is self-generating in ideas, it is an exploration of human relationship, a shared experience of creation or the beauty, joys and sorrows of life which student take as an enjoyment. Thus, learning becomes a playful and pleasant activity for them. This keeps them away from burden of running and boredom of the classroom learning – student learn by doing an activity. They do certain role playing and improvisations where they themselves are sole experiments with their own ideas.

Their knowledge and understanding of facts, events and others come to them as a first hand and with fresh experiences. In dramatic activities and teacher’s stance is manipulator at times, but her status is ‘low’. She is a part of the group and is not authoritative.



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Thus, creative drama is teaching and learning helps in breaking the monotony way of studying and develops the skills of the student. The creativity of the student and the teacher is developed and make the classroom a joyful place of learning, developing and creating. The overall development, new perception of learning and teaching, development of creative thinking these are all possible through creative drama.

Hence, let us hope for the best that our student is not only confined to the classroom's but by using creative drama in the future as their curriculum. They develop in such a way exactly what they need in their future to achieve their goals.

Let's hope in the future we don't see the stressful smiles on the child's face, but cheerful smiles in the process of learning by enjoying their education.

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