CONSEQUENCE OF AUDIO VISUAL COLLECTION IN SCHOOL LIBRARIES

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ABSTRACT

The collection of Audio-Visual in library plays important role in teaching and learning. The importance of audio visual (AV) technology in education should not be underestimated. If audio-visual collection in library is carefully planned and designed, it can provide a rich learning environment. In this article, an author discussed the consequences of Audio-Visual collection in libraries especially for students of school library.

1. Introduction

In the beginning of 21st century, certain factors caused major changes in education throughout world: educational reforms, the introduction and usage of Information and communication Technologies (ICT) and the application of educational technology into the teaching and learning process. These changes were influential in the evolution of new forms of learning, and affected the educational process. The ICT is now an integral part of our society, and must be implemented into schools in an effective way.

The libraries of schools are not lacking behind in adopting ICT and extending information sources and services. The ICT in school libraries has accompanied by a

sense of excitement not only for the teachers but also for the children's. In view of that, a school library is presently referred to as a multimedia Center, Media Resource Centre, School Media Centre, Instructional Resource Centre etc.

A school library is an information center located in a school environment for the purpose of providing information services to support teaching and learning process of the school. But due to impact of ICT, we found different type of collection materials. Hence it is common in the present scenario that the Audio Visual materials also adding into the library collection.

For the purposes of this discussion, it will be assumed that all audio-visual materials in educational institutions are parts of the institution's library resources regardless of where they may be housed or used. The importance of audio visual (AV) technology in education should not be underestimated. There are two reasons for this; one, learning via AV creates a stimulating and interactive environment which is more conducive to learning; two, we live in an audio-visual age which means that having the skills to use AV equipment is integral to future employment prospects. Therefore exposure to AV technology in education is imperative.[3]

2. Scope

In the education of young child, the printed and other audio-visual resources are essential and needed in abundance. These resources are the basic tools, which are required for the effective teaching and learning. Apart from printed material, different kinds of audio-visual aids are also needed to enrich classroom learning and to expose the students to the larger world around them, The Library should have a section devoted to films-slides, transparencies, photographs, maps, posters, charts, as well as hardware in the form of Radio & Television set, Tape recorder/player, VCR & VCP, slide & film projector, overhead projectors, computers and Xerox machine so that the Library develops into a real Learning Resource Centre where both students and teachers can explore new paths of learning. Obviously this will be difficult for all the

schools in the initial stage, so a process of sharing under school cluster system may be initiated[4].

3. Audio Visual Technology

Audio-visuals mean something related to sound and visual or light. They include printed materials and their equipment. Audio-visual materials can be categorized into two types they are Audio Material and Visual Materials

1. **Audio materials:** The audio include lecture/talk, Telephone, Radio and Audio tapes/cassette compact Disc etc.

2. **Visual materials:** It can be identified by grouping than into two ways-2 dimensional and 3 dimensional; projectiles and Non projectuals. This, Visual materials can also be classified under graphics/photographic.[5]

Audio-visuals are a combination of audio and visuals. This includes the television, DVDs, iPods, Nintendo WIIs, computer games and the Internet. Statistics which show the link between children and AV technology include. This AV technology used in education currently is mainly the interactive whiteboard**.** More than two million interactive whiteboards are now installed worldwide, and this product continues to show strong growth. It was predicted that one out of every five classrooms worldwide will have an interactive whiteboard by the end of 2013. Children are exposed from a young age to a range of other AV technologies**,** which previous generations were not therefore it is clear that children of primary school age have the interest and capacity to learn and navigate AV technologies[6].

4. AV Technology in School Libraries

Audio-Visual technology has been used in schools for decades, but only in the form of a TV and video player to show short educational films. Now it is the computer that shows these educational films and homework is also being done increasingly on PCs.

Children learn differently and audio visual equipment gives teachers the chance to stimulate each child's learning process with a combination of pictures, sounds and attention grabbing media. We are surrounded by audio visual equipment and children are keen to understand technology and keep up to date with applied science. Having this opportunity in the classroom helps to facilitate learning. More and more schools are taking advantage of AV technology to teach their students. This equipment can be used to present information to students but also the fact that they are interacting with AV technology on a daily basis also makes them proficient in using technology[7].

Not exposing children to different forms of technology is depriving them of vital learning opportunities that could benefit them in later life for example through increased career opportunities. AV lessons should not just consist of children working in pairs on a PowerPoint presentation or rewriting a piece of work using Word, ICT should be challenging, exciting and fun[8].

5. Advantages of Audio-Visual for children's Learning

1. **Best Motivators**

They are the best motivators. Students work with more interest and zeal. They are more attentive.

2. **Fundamental to Verbal Instructions**

They help to reduce verbalism which is a major weakness of our schools. They convey the same meaning as words mean. They give clear concepts and thus help to bring accuracy in learning.

3. **Clear Images**

Clear images are formed when we see, hear, touch, taste and smell as our experiences are direct, concrete and more or less permanent. Learning through the senses becomes the most natural and consequently the easiest.

4. **Vicarious Experience**

Everyone agrees to the fact that the firsthand experience is the best type of educative experience but such an experience cannot always be provided to the pupils a so in some situations certain substitutes have to be provided.

5. **Variety**

Audio-Visual aids provide variety and provide different tool s in the hands of the teacher.

6. **Freedom**

The use of audio-visual aids provide various occasions for the pupil to move about, talk, laugh and comment upon. Under such an atmosphere the students work because they want to work and not because the teacher wants them to work.

7. **Opportunities to Handle and Manipulate**

The use of audio-visual aids provides immense opportunities to the pupils to see, handle and manipulate things.

6. Problems in the Use of Teaching Aids

Schools are sometimes reticent to recognize the benefits that technology offers to children who are in contact with them every day. Also, a child's technological ability often outweighs that of the teachers and the librarians. This creates a clear barrier to collection of audio-visual for education effectively. 'A very significant determinant of students, librarian and teacher levels of engagement in ICT is their level of confidence in using the technology. Therefore in order to use AV technology successfully in education, these barriers need to be overcome[9].

7. The future of AV technology in school libraries

Audio-visual technologies will play a huge role in the future of schools thanks to the development of technology and the increasing body of evidence which proves its ability to improve learning and future employment prospects. The National Curriculum describes AV as something that: "Prepares pupils to participate in a

rapidly changing world in which work and other activities are increasingly transformed by access to a varied and developing technolo*gy."*

A wide selection and collection of Audio-Visual tools make teaching and learning a rich and enjoyable experience, inspire learners with creative and innovative multimedia activities and will also save time in lesson preparation. The ability to share this information will eventually create a 'global curriculum'

8. Recommendations

The literature demonstrates the importance of a good school library in students' academic achievement. Based on the importance and the benefits of the school library to both staff and the students, the author has the following recommendations.[10]

1. Curriculum planners should encourage the use of audio-visual materials by inculcating them in the educational syllabus of all levels of education.
2. That states school management boards should pave way for efficient funding for libraries especially in collection of audio-visual materials.
3. Students and teachers alike should get involved in their various roles in the improvisation in audio visual collection and its proper utilization.
4. Should engage in inter-library loan where one member library can borrow from the other especially in regard to audio-visual aids.
5. The audio-visual librarian should improve in making known to the lecturers the available audio-visual resources in the library at any moment in time.
6. The school library should have a professional librarian to have an idea in collection of Audio visual materials[11].
7. The Audio-Visual librarian should organize orientation, films, exhibitions, and displays to create awareness about audio Visuals.
8. The library should take steps to enhance Audio-Visual resources for both staff and students that meets their educational needs and developments and augments classroom teachings

9. The library should provide adequate recreational and information oriented audio-visual materials to meet their interest.

10. The library should provide adequate space in making use of Audio-visual materials.

9. Conclusion

The collection of audio-visual materials in libraries bit costly in business. The Governments and school leaders have to do their best to provide new facilities, dependent upon their educational vision and the funds which are at their disposal. The use of tape recorders, CDs, and video films is now becoming reality in some of the advanced countries. In view of these developments it is all the more important for School Librarians to know these new types of knowledge sources and add them to their collection.

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