

1. 'Curriculum'

Meaning Of Curriculum

The term 'Curriculum' has been derived from the Latin word 'Currere' which means 'to run or run way'. It is a course to be run for attaining a goal. It is a path on which a teacher makes his student do run so that he may reach his destination. In the past, it was considered only to acquire knowledge and skills but in modern concept, it is the organised form of subject matter prepared to achieve specific objectives.

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Definitions Of Curriculum

1. Ross ⇒ "The aim of Education is the development of valuable personality and spiritual individuality".
2. Cunniffham ⇒ "Curriculum is a tool in the hands of the artist (teacher) to mould his

Material (Students) according
to his ideals, aims and objectives
in his studies (School)

3. Jagers \Rightarrow "Curriculum consists of subjects, activities and occupations and actual living and community service."

4. Zakir Hussain \Rightarrow "Curriculum implies study of languages, science and technology, social sciences, Art, craft, Music and physical Education. It involves courses, activities, experiences and the complete environment of the institution."

5. Secondary Education \Rightarrow "It must be clearly understood that according to the best Educational thought Curriculum does not mean only the academic subjects traditionally taught in the schools, but it includes the totality of experiences that a pupil receives through the manifold activities that go on in the school — in the classroom, library, laboratory, workshop, playground and in the numerous informal contacts

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between teachers and pupils. In this sense, the whole life of the school becomes the curriculum which can touch the life of the students at all points and help in the evolution of balanced personality."

Ross ⇒ "Curriculum includes cognitive, affective and co-native activities. Cognitive activities include language, literature, Arithmetic, Science, Geography and History. Affective activities include Music, Art and poetry. Co-native activities include activities which satisfy the basic needs of food, clothes and shelter which may be called practical arts and capacities of work."

"Need And Importance Of Curriculum"

Curriculum is the joint effort of the teacher and the children which helps to solve the day to day problems of the children and outside the school. It is a very important factor in Education. It is related to the various needs of the child which changes according to the situation and circumstances prevailing in the country. The following points highlight the need and importance of Curriculum construction:

1. It trains the child to face the real life. The Curriculum trains the child to face the situation of real life. It provides those experiences to the child which help him to solve the problem which he faces day to day life.

Complete development ⇒ Curriculum helps in achieving the

round development of child's personality. It develops various aspects of his personality like physical, mental, social, intellectual and spiritual etc.

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3. Development of Democratic values: Curriculum in any democratic set up helps in developing democratic values of equality, liberty, Justice and Fraternity, so that the child may develop into him a true sense of citizenship. *(friendship mutual support within a group)*

group of people having common profession or interest

4. Satisfaction of needs: Educationists are of the view that curriculum satisfies various needs of the students. They find a great variety of interests, skills, abilities, aptitudes, attitudes etc.

5. Development of knowledge: Curriculum is taken to mean development of knowledge or of facts. It provides various resources to the educators related to their lives. As it also includes various subjects which help in acquiring knowledge in different

6. Creates the atmosphere of thinking and learning. Curriculum creates the atmosphere in which the child can think and learn. No thinking and learning can take place without suitable curriculum. Through curriculum both the teachers and students become critical enough to be objective. Thus, curriculum helps to seek truth, solve problems, reason and develop the power of reasoning and constructive thinking.

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7. Develops the character of the student. Curriculum develops the qualities like Honesty, Judgement, Co-operation, friendship, Morality and good will and all the good qualities help in developing their character.

8. Bridges the gulf between School and Society :- [Secondary Education] A good curriculum takes the School nearer to the Society and vice versa. It provides those objects to the students which help in destroying the gulf between two i.e. School and Society. Parents of the children come to school and interact with teacher to

Solve the problems of their children.
It fulfilled need of the children and society.

9. Fixes limit :-
It fixes limits of teaching and learning.

10. Paves way for invention and discoveries :-

A right type of curriculum encourages the students to think about discoveries and inventions. The children become engaged in performing experiments and creative activities which make them scientists.

Conclusion

William J. Bennett has rightly concluded the importance of curriculum when he mentions that ("If a teacher is the guide, the curriculum is the path. A good curriculum marks the path of significance so that the student does not wander aimlessly) over the independent solely on chance discover the landmarks of achievement".

5. Core Curriculum


In this curriculum basic knowledge of all subjects is given to children. They come to know what are the contents of a subject.

6. Life Centred Curriculum

It is centred around the life of a child. Neither knowledge nor intelligence but what is useful for a child in life is taught.

7. Basic Curriculum

Basic knowledge about all necessities of life are given to the children. This is useful for satisfying the basic needs like food, shelter and clothing. The children remain busy in spinning, weaving, wood work, metal work, song, music, plays, dramas, etc. activities.


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Subject Centred (Traditional) Curriculum?

It is the curriculum in which subjects are given more importance. The knowledge of all subjects is planned and arranged according to the standard of the students. It is made specific and different branches of the knowledge are separated into different subjects. It is taught by theoretical method. The bookish knowledge is delivered to the students and all the subject matter in a book is made to understand by them.

Advantages

1. Authoritative Contents

It provides updated, authoritative content within a subject area. It supplies developed material for all children. It designs subject matter and learning processes for use in schools which are still the most important instruments of education.

2. Specifies Subject Matter
It specifies subject matter and learning processes which are still understood by teachers and students. This clarity and understanding helps in the realisation of Educational Objectives.

3. Prevents Wastage
This type of Curriculum prevents wastage of curriculum on the part of pupils and teachers. The student gets such of the knowledge of his race, community and mankind in a concise manner while he cannot get otherwise.

Limitations

1. Repression of Child Urges
The subject centred Curriculum denies the child's independent thinking, creativity, freedom and the right of childhood to learn actively and to formulate its own thoughts and ideas.

2. It is Rigid
This type of Curriculum cannot be flexible as it is based on

3. Dominated by Examinations
This type of Curriculum is too much dominated by the examination. If the student has learnt only the questions set in the question paper he is equally good in learning and intelligent and contrary to it, if he does not know into those questions he is considered dull and consequently, declared unsuccessful though he may be knowing rest of the subject matter.

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4. Unpsychological
Subject Centred Curriculum does not consider interest, liking or dislike of the child. It treats all the children alike and as such ignores the individual differences.

5. It encourages Wrote Memory
The Subject centred Curriculum stresses wrote Memorisation. It does not give him the real knowledge. He is supposed to digest the ready-made knowledge heavy and over-loaded :- The existing Curriculum is heavy, over-loaded and over-crowded with Subjects. There is multiplicity of subjects in the

6. Organized facts: Facts are presented in an organized way in the subject-centred curriculum.

Advantages

4. Pre-determined time and place
It has fix place and time and different subjects are allotted at different time.

5. Support of books
Books are storehouse of knowledge. The contents of the subjects are arranged in a book and it helps them to learn it easily.

'Activity Centred Curriculum' (Modern)

Activity centred curriculum is that curriculum in which the educational activities are directed towards the activities of the children. It involves the child in performing various activities instead of sticking him to his books. He learns by doing so activities or in other words, learning side by side. It is based on the principle of "learning by doing". It involves child in performing various activities which may be physical constructive

Community participation:

Psychologists like Rousseau, Dewey, Pestalozzi, Dr. Zakir Hussain have defined activity centred curriculum according to their own view point.

According to Rousseau, "Instead of making the child stick to his books, keep him busy in the work shop".

According to John Dewey, "Activity Centred Curriculum is a continuous stream of child's activities, unbroken by systematic subjects and springing from the interest and personality of the child."

Thus, in the activity centred curriculum, the principle of learning by doing is followed and knowledge is imparted through activities which the child performs through his own hands.

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Advantages

1. Sublimation of Instincts and Emotions
It helps in the sublimation of Instincts and emotions, particularly the instincts of creativeness, and curiosity and construction.
2. All-round development
It helps in the development of all aspects of life like Physical, intellectual, social and emotional needs and development of the child.
3. Psychological Activity
This curriculum makes all activities psychological as they are according to likes and dislikes of the children. All the programmes in an activities are according to the interest of the children. So, this curriculum makes the process of education psychological and interesting.
4. Keeps the teacher Alert
The teacher remains alert as has to help all the students performing various activities.
5. Learning by doing

The students perform activities themselves. They learn by doing any activity. This principle is based on psychological activity in which learning takes place by doing activities. Learning by doing has now been recognized as a Maxim of education. Activity centred Curriculum this principle

6. Preparation for life. By providing rich life experiences.

Limitations

1. Lack of Balance

The activity centred curriculum lacks balance. It neglects the knowledge aspect and social aspects of education.

2. Incomplete

All education cannot be provided by activity centred curriculum.

Subjects like history, Civic and Geography etc. cannot be taught through activity.

All activities not suitable for all.

There are different kinds of students who cannot perform many activities. Thus all activities are not suitable for all types