USE OF MATHEMATICS IN DAILY LIFE

[1]Mrs. Rupali Shroff, [2]Er. Akshay Kumar Shrimali
[1]Assistant Professor, [2]Civil Engineer
[1]Department of Science,
[1]Seva Sadan Mahavidyalaya, Burhanpur (M.P.), India

Abstract: The most fascinating of all knowledge and the most phobia generating subject in the school curriculum is Mathematics. The way in which it is introduced to the learners devoid of its daily application has been the root cause of the present scenario as experienced by everyone the country. While celebrating Ramanujan's dedicated life it is pertinent to note the ways in which one experiences mathematical applications in daily life from the time one gets up from bed till one goes to bed in the night. An attempt is being made to illustrate some of these instances in this brief paper, particularly to motivate children to learn this subject with interest and enthusiasm.

I. INTRODUCTION:

Mathematics is a methodical application of matter. It is so said because the subject makes a man methodical or systematic. Mathematics makes our life orderly and prevents chaos. Certain qualities that are nurtured by mathematics are power of reasoning, creativity, abstract or spatial thinking, critical thinking, problem-solving ability and even effective communication skills. Mathematics is the cradle of all creations, without which the world cannot move an inch. Be it a cook or a farmer, a carpenter or a mechanic, a shopkeeper or a doctor, an engineer or a scientist, a musician or a magician, everyone needs mathematics in their day-to-day life. Even insects use mathematics in their everyday life for existence. Snails make their shells, spiders design their webs, and bees build hexagonal combs. There are countless examples of mathematical patterns in nature's fabric. Anyone can be a mathematician if one is given proper guidance and training in the formative period of one's life. A good curriculum of mathematics and by adopting certain good habits for children in home and in school is helpful in effective teaching and learning of the subject.

II. USE OF MATHEMATICS IN DAILY LIFE:

Experience says learning mathematics can be made easier and enjoyable if our curriculum includes mathematical activities and games. Maths puzzles and riddles encourage and attract an open-minded attitude among youngsters and help them to develop clarity in their thinking. Emphasis should be laid on development of clear concept in mathematics in a child, right from the primary classes.

If a teacher fails here, then the child will develop a phobia for the subject as he moves on the higher classes. For explaining a topic in mathematics, a teacher should take help of pictures, sketches, diagrams and models as far as possible. As it is believed that the process of learning is complete if our sense of hearing is accompanied by our sense of sight. Open-ended questions should be given to the child to answer and he/she should be encouraged to think about the solutions in all possible manners. The child should be appreciated for every correct attempt. And the mistakes must be immediately corrected without any criticism.

The greatest hurdle in the process of learning mathematics is lack of practice. Students should daily work out at least 10 problems from different areas in order to master the concept and develop speed and accuracy in solving a problem. Learning of multiplication-tables should be encouraged in the lower classes.

Another very effective means of spreading the knowledge of mathematics among children is through peer-teaching. Once a child has learned a concept from his teacher, the latter should ask him to explain the same to fellow students. Moreover, in the process all the children will be able to express their doubts on the topic and clear them through discussions in a group.

Another effective way of spreading the knowledge of mathematics among children is through teaching at home by their parents by adopting certain habits.

To enlist the all pervasive encompassing role of mathematics in one's daily life is itself a stupendous task. An attempt is made here which ears can be used to motivate the students to learn the mathematics with interest and enthusiasm,

1. When we get up we see the time of waking to verify whether we have enough time to attend to various responsibilities. **(Awareness of time, reading a clock / watch, planning one's routine.)**
2. When we brush our teeth the life of the brush, its cost, the paste, its available quantity to get new one come to one's mind. **(Cost accounting)**
3. In this connection, use of water, its availability, conservation, proper use of waste water is relevant to think. **(Awareness of environment, nature, preservation of the same)**
4. Drinking coffee, tea, milk - the quantity, the temperature balance not affecting the tongue, quantity consumable, proportion of mixes constituting milk, coffee powder of decoction, boiling stage, filtering mechanism, washed cups/ glasses ensuring health and a host of things require analysis, reasoning and attention. **(Practical knowledge of ratio and proportion in domestic life also)**
5. Same is the case with bathing. **(Water use and conservation)**
6. When it comes to wearing of dresses, the size, its stitching, its durability, its condition-washed and ironed with creases etc., need knowledge of proportion, geometry. **(Measurement of length, skill in transformation of cloth into clothe and other ideas indicated)**
7. Taking food as breakfast needs clear knowledge of proportion for preparation to have good taste- more salt, chilly etc., besides spoiling the taste will affect health too as proper balance has to be maintained. In that connection procurement of raw materials for preparation of food needs mention which involves calculation, commercial mathematics to study how a dealer measures, calculates and gives change. **(Practical study of commercial mathematics can be used as project at various levels)**
8. Attending to one's place of study or work, duty involves transport, punctuality, comfort proportionate to one's means, time management and such other skills borrowed from mathematics. **(This study is interesting in itself with shades of time and work, time and distance with more in depth analysis as below)**

9. Fees / salary got calculated suitably for the person, post, work ethics, work involvement daily, weekly, monthly compared with the international or national or state standardization involves a good deal of mathematics though it may require some units of management and accounting which can be done effectively by a student of mathematics.
10. Leisure management requires a study of total time available, money available, types of entertainments available and taste of individuals to be observed, cultivated and practised involving units of skills needed for each shade of the work. **(An Entertainment industry gaining ground in the global economy also needs mathematical knowledge)**
11. Planning for social accountability again requires commitment, universal love; money, mind and man management skills which are something like a corollary for the main theorem of life lived by a human individual. It will add lustre to one's life to make one enjoy it to the full. In fact such tastes cultivated lead one to realize one's aesthetic potential to be of enjoyment to oneself as also to others around- near and far by this approach. The subject mathematics offers innumerable opportunities for a discerning person with a good background in mathematics to create new knowledge, to refine existing ones and to enjoy repeating certain structures exclusively for their aesthetic value which is a higher order personality trait. **(Solving puzzles, riddles, construction of magic squares in general, data magic squares studied by Ramanujan, construction of problems of this type are all possible if, taste in mathematics is cultivated and practised.)**
12. In short from cradle – weight of the new born – measurement of burning / burying place – the use of mathematics is unquestionable for every individual. Being the queen of all sciences and the king all arts it offers its offers in full to all interested who approach it in the proper way with dedication and interest to enjoy its fruition as did the legendary Ramanujan and his likes for centuries together which is perhaps used by most of us for "udara nimittam".

These all points are very effective for spreading the knowledge of mathematics among children in school and at home by their teachers and parents.

III. CONCLUSION:

The present age is one of skill-development and innovations. The more mathematical we are in our approach, the more successful we will be. Mathematics offers rationality to our thoughts. It is a tool in our hands to make our life simpler and easier. Let us realize and appreciate the beauty of the subject and embrace it with all our heart. It is a talent which should be compulsorily honed by all in every walk of life. May this occasion generate more Ramanujans from our students in spite of the environment they learn, with motivation given by teachers at schools and colleges to identify the capable and encourage them suitably to bring back Aryabhtas, Brahamguptas, Madhavas, Bhaskaracharyas and Ramanujans from among them?

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This purpose of this paper is to remove the fear of mathematics among the students, with a special focus on use of mathematics in daily life.

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