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Motivation in School Education

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Abstract:

Motivation refers to a process of including and stimulating an individual to act in a certain manner. Most of the motivation theories assumes that motivation is involved in the performance of all learned responses that is a learned behavior will not occur unless it is energized students in the classroom learning need constant motivation from the teachers so that optimum use of their talents may be made for their development. Many human actions are directed to the enhancement, or the maintenance of the self-esteem, thoughts and behaviors are in part determined by one's self concept individual tend to maintain self-consistency in their actions, self- perception provides one thread to the stability of personality.

Keywords:

Motivation, self-consistency, self- perception, self- actualization, self- reflection

“Motivation in school learning involves arousing, persisting and directing desirable behavior.”

Skinner (1947)

Some students naturally enthusiastic about learning but many need or expect their instructors to inspire, challenge and stimulate them. “Effective learning in the classroom depends on the teacher's ability to maintain the interest that brought students to the course in the first place” (Ericken 1978). Motivation is the crucial factor in classroom. Motivation is an internal force which accelerates a response or activity or behavior.

Concept of Motivation:

The word motivation has been derived from the Latin word ‘Moveers’ which means to move. According to A.H. Maslow (1954) “Motivation is constant, never ending, fluctuating and complex and that it is an almost universal characteristic of particularly every organismic state of affairs.” Motivation refers to a process of including and stimulating an individual to act in certain manner. C.W. Good suggested “Motivation is the process of arousing, sustaining and regulating activity.” Many human actions are directed to the enhancement or the maintenance of self- esteem, thoughts and behaviors are in part determined by one's self concept, individual tend to maintain self-consistency in their actions, self-perception provides one thread to



the stability of personality. The term 'motive' refers to goal directed behavior and energizing conditions within the organization that drives behavior. Motivation is the heart of teaching and learning process.

Characteristics of Motivation:

- Motivation is arousing interest in learning.
- It is sustaining interest in learning.
- Motivation is directing behavior.
- Motivation initiates and energizes activity in learning
- It leads to self-actualization in learning
- Motivation arouses, sustains and directs behavior
- Motivation stimulates learning activity
- Motivation is directed to a selective goal.

Importance of Motivation

Most of the motivation theories assumes that motivation is involved in the performance of all learned responses that is a learned behavior will not occur unless it is energized. The major questions among psychologists in general are whether motivation is a primary and secondary influence of a behavior. Those are changes in behavior better explained by principles of environmental ecological influence, perception, memory cognitive development, emotion, explanatory style or personality or concepts unique motivation pertinent.

Motivation helps to improve performance level

Motivation helps in satisfying needs of the students and providing them satisfaction.

It provides students with goals to work towards, helps students to solve problems.

It helps us to change habits.

To change behavior, develop competencies, be creative, set goals, grow interests and make planning.



Types of Motivation:

There are two types of motivation. 1) Internal motivation 2) External motivation.

Internal motivation – Internal motivation organic needs instincts, emotions appetites, urges, desires, wants etc. are innate motives. These internal motives are also called implicit motives or natural motives. Intrinsic motivation means that the individual's motivational stimuli are coming from within. The individuals have the desire to perform a specific task, because its results are in accordance with his belief system or fulfills a desire and therefore importance is attached to it. Our deep-rooted desires have the highest motivational power. Example like Acceptance, Curiosity, Honor, Independence, Order, power, social contact and social status.

Extrinsic motivation- Extrinsic motivation means that the individual's motivational stimuli are coming from outside. In other words, our desires to perform a task are controlled by an outside source. Note that even though the stimuli are coming from outside, the result of performing the task will still be rewarding for the individual performing the task. Such kind of motivation has no functional relationships to the task. Extrinsic motivation is external in nature. The most well-known and the most debated motivation is money. Examples like Employee of the month award, benefit package, bonuses, organized activities.

Classroom Motivation: Different Techniques

Students in the classroom learning need constant motivation from the teachers so that optimum use of their talents may be made for their development.

- 1) **Attractive physical and environmental conditions.** – First of all the teacher should attend to the physical conditions of the classroom. There should be no distracting factors in and around the classroom. Noise, strong light and some undesirable scenes often distract the attention and do away with the interest.
- 2) **Sublimation of innate impulses** – Most of the behavior of small children is directed by their innate impulses, curiosity, construction, self-assertation, pugnacity and hoarding are some of their most powerful drives which form the basis of all kinds of their activities. Small children are very curious by nature. They like to do many things.



- 3) **Stimulus variation by the teacher-** It has been generally observed that children are not able to attend to one thing for a very long period. The effectiveness of the teaching learning process in such a situation depends to a great extent on the stimulus variation used by the teacher behavior. Some of the common teacher behaviors in the classroom which fall under variation are: Teacher movement, Teacher gestures, Changes in speech pattern, change in sensory focus, change in postures etc.
- 4) **Reinforcement: praise and blame** – These may be classified as: A) Positive verbal reinforcement: These include ‘good’, ‘Fair’, ‘Excellent’, ‘correct’. B) Positive nonverbal reinforcement: These include nods and smiles and teachers friendly movements towards pupils. C) Negative non-verbal: These include sneering, frowning impatience etc.
- 5) **Extrinsic learning rewards and punishment** – These are also termed as reinforcers, and the process of giving rewards and punishment is known as reinforcement.
- 6) **Pleasure and pain** – According to the oldest theory of behavior pleasant experiences which give satisfaction are sought after and painful experiences are avoided by an individual.
- 7) **Attainable goal-** There should be a goal to be reached in every lesson. The goal must be made clear to students.
- 8) **Experiences of success** – Experience of success motivates a child to continue an activity.
- 9) **Knowledge of progress** – Pupils knowledge of their progress, of how well they are moving towards their goal is a very effective form of motivation.
- 10) **Novelty** – The striving towards self- actualization makes pupils search for the new and the different Field trips, excursion, dramatics, sports literary activities.
- 11) **Individual differences of the children** – Children have different interests and capabilities. All the children can not be motivated alike for all the lessons at all time. It is duty of the teacher to discover individual interests and capabilities of the children in his charge to motivate them.
- 12) **Teaching skills** – Teaching skills of the teachers greatly influence motivation. It is not easy to give an exact number of teaching skills involved in motivation students in the class. Skill of introducing the topic, skill in explanation
- 13) **Teachers own motivation and interest in teaching** – The teacher must be interested in what he is teaching and in the children whom he is teaching. If he is not interested in the work himself, he can never motivate the class.



The Role of Teachers in Motivating Students.

To enable students to identify with self, personal interest and values by supporting their freedom of choice and suggests it is goal directed learning which stimulates and guides individuals towards a particular direction.

Give students a sense of control - while guidance from a teacher is important to keeping students on task and motivated, allowing students to have some choice and control over what happens in the classroom is actually one of the best ways to keep them engaged.

Be clear about learning objectives – At the beginning of the year teachers should layout clear objectives, rules and expectations of students so that there is no confusion and students have goals to work towards.

Create a threat free environment – When teachers create a safe, supportive environment for students affirming their belief in a student’s abilities rather than laying out the consequences of not doing things students are much more likely to get and stay motivated to do their work.

Use positive competition – Competition in the classroom isn’t always a bad thing and, in some cases, can motivate students to try harder and work to excel.

Offer rewards – Everyone likes getting rewards and offering your students the chance to earn them is an excellent source of motivation. Consider the personalities and needs of your students to determine appropriate.

Give students responsibility – Assigning students classroom job is a great way to build a community motivation. It can also be useful to allow students to take turns leading activities or helping out so that each feels important and valued.

Encourage self-reflection – Motivate students to get them to a take a hard look at themselves and determine their own strength and weaknesses.

Model enthusiasm for learning – One of the best ways to get your students motivated is to share your enthusiasm. When teachers are excited about teaching. They will be much more excited about learning.



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Know your students – Students need to know their teacher has a genuine interest in them and cares about them and their success. When students feel appreciated it creates a safe learning environment and motivates them to work harder, as they want to get praise and good feedback from someone they feel knows and respects them as individuals.

Make goals high but attainable – Students like to be challenged and will work to achieve high expectations so long as they believe those goals to be within their reach, teacher should push students to get more out of them.

Give learning feedback and offer chances to improve – It critical teachers provide effective learning feedback to help students to exactly where they students to exactly where they went wrong and how they can improve next time.

Make things fun – Adding fun activities into your school day can help students who struggle to stay engaged and make the classroom a much more friendly place for all students.

Provide opportunities for success – Students even the best ones, can become frustrated and demotivated when they feel like they are struggling or not getting the recognition that other students are.

Conclusion:

Motivation refers to a protect of including and stimulating an individual to act in certain manner. Motivation is a force used within the education system to encourage students learning and understanding. Motivation is the study of understanding what drives a person to work towards a particular goal or outcome. Students may be motivated for several reasons such as their interest in a topic or subject, their desire to impress, their parents, teachers or peers.



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