



**A STUDY TO ASSESS THE EFFECTIVENESS OF STRUCTURED TEACHING PROGRAM
ABOUT THREATS OF PLASTICS AND ITS INNOCUOUS DISPOSAL AMONG THE
HOUSEWIVES RESIDING AT SELECTED AREA AT UJJAIN, M.P.**

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INTRODUCTION

Plastic is all around us, it forms much of the packaging for the food and drink. For many of us it is throughout our home, our work place, our cars and the buses. It can be in our clothes, eyeglasses, computers, dishes, utensils and toys.

Plastic is versatile, light weight, flexible, moisture resistant, durable, strong and relatively less expensive. Plastic plays an important role in our life on earth, but the wide spread use of the plastic is also causing unprecedented environmental problems and carries serious health risks. Plastic can be used wisely with caution, when suitable alternatives do not exist or are not available. Plastic is one the most used material in our lives. It is everywhere; it is convenient, easy to use and usually inexpensive.

Plastic waste management involves strategies to minimize plastic waste generation, promote recycling and reuse, and ensure responsible disposal. Key aspects include waste segregation at source, extended producer responsibility (EPR), and exploring innovative solutions like pyrolysis and bioremediation.

World Health Organization in 2019 conducted a study to assess the levels of attitude towards ban on plastic in Ireland. The results revealed that 65% of the rural people are ready to stop the plastic use where as 73% of the urban population are saying that they will use plastic till the ban on plastic comes into action.⁶ The national-toxicological programme(NTP) conducted a recent case-control study of 251 cases and one to one

matched controls in Oslo, Norway, indicated that the presence of polyvinyl chloride and other plasticizer containing surface materials in the home increases the risk of bronchial obstruction during the first two years of life.

According to the environmental California research and policy center, which received 130 studies on the topic plastic and health hazards, bisphenol-A has been linked to the breast and uterine cancer, an increased risk of miscarriage and decreased levels of testosterone levels. Most experts agree that the amount of BPA that would leach into food and drinks through normal handling is probably very small, but there are concerns about cumulative effects of small doses.

Objectives

1. To assess the level of knowledge of school children regarding hazards of plastic use.
2. To evaluate the effectiveness of structured teaching programme on the knowledge of school children regarding hazards in plastic use.
3. To find the association between pre-test level of knowledge with selected demographic variables regarding hazards of plastic use among school children.
4. To assess the level of knowledge of school children regarding hazards of plastic use.
5. To evaluate the effectiveness of structured teaching programme on the knowledge of school children regarding hazards in plastic use.
6. To find the association between pre-test level of knowledge with selected demographic variables regarding hazards of plastic use among school children evaluate the effectiveness of structured teaching programme on the knowledge of hazards of plastic use among school children and to associate the knowledge of plastic use with socio-demographic variables evaluate the effectiveness of structured teaching programme on the knowledge of hazards of plastic use among school children and to associate the knowledge of plastic use with socio-demographic variables evaluate the effectiveness of structured teaching programme on the knowledge of hazards of plastic use among school children and to associate the knowledge of plastic use with socio-demographic variables

Evaluate the effectiveness of structured teaching programme

On the knowledge of hazards of plastic use among school children and to associate the knowledge of plastic use with socio-demographic variables

Hypothesis

H₁: The mean post test knowledge scores of school children will be significantly higher than their mean pre-test knowledge scores at 0.05 level of significance

H₂: There will be statistically significant association between pre-test scores and selected demographic variables.

METHODS AND MATERIAL

An evaluative approach was used with one group pre-test and post test design, which was a pre-experimental design. The sample comprised of about 50 students between 10-12 years of age studying 6Std to 8 Std at S.K. Gandhi School. The content validity and reliability: of the tool was established and the data was gathered from about 50 samples and the pre test and the post test was conducted.

RESULT

The present study assessed the knowledge of school children regarding plastic use and found that only 40% (20) had good knowledge while the rest of the study subjects had either average or poor knowledge in the pre-test and a maximum of 96% (48) of the study subjects had good knowledge in the post test. It showed that there was a significant improvement in the knowledge of school children after the structured teaching programme.

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