Importance of CCA for Effective and Joyful Teaching Learning Environment

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Introduction

Every activity in school life plays a significant role in development of students. Co-curricular activities are an essential part of school life and helps in enhancing learning process of students at school. Co-Curricular activities are compulsory activities which is important for every student to participate. Co-curricular are designed and balanced with academic curriculum so that every student gets to learn beyond subjects.
CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Co-curricular activities are meant to bring social skills, intellectual skills, moral values, personality progress and character appeal in students. It includes athletics, cultural events, Library activities, science lab activities, classroom activities, creative arts and meditation etc.
IMPORTANT OF CCA

Typically, co-curricular activities are carried out outside the normal classrooms but they supplement academic curriculum and help in learning by doing. These activities help students to develop problem-solving, reasoning, critical thinking, creative thinking, communication, and collaborative abilities.

- Better Physical & Mental health
- Create Opportunities
- Sense of Responsibility & Confidence
- Development of Special Skills
- Exposure to New Activities
Co curricular activities

- The core aim of education and learning should be to foster holistic development.

- Co-curricular activities help in the holistic development of students and assist in developing critical skills and abilities to be successful and happy in the 21st Century life and workplaces. Therefore, the importance of co-curricular activities is immense during school and college education.
The 12 essential skills and values that you can develop through co-curricular activities are:

- Logical and analytical thinking
- Critical thinking
- Creative thinking
- Problem-solving skills
- Leadership skills
- Social skills
- Emotional skills
- Communication skill
- Technology skills
- Social values
- Ethical values
- Recreational values
Joy

- An attitude of constant inner happiness and satisfaction
- A feeling, a state of mind or a way of thinking
- A sense of passion and enthusiasm
What is joyful learning?

Joyful learning is the mode of learning in which learners are given opportunities to experience emotions of surprise in delightful ways, nurture their curiosity, while interacting with meaningful content through a supportive community of classmates/peer group and teachers.
Why joyful learning is important?

An important component i.e. joy, of true learning, encompasses collaboration, connection, sharing and pride. ... Joyful learning means bringing the element of happiness and joy while learning. This enables learners and teachers to experience teaching- learning in a stress-free environment.
What are the features of joyful learning?

- Characteristics of joyful learning include being highly engaged in the task or experience while having a sense of wonder and curiosity. Typically, educators and their students both benefit from and feel synchronicity in the teaching/learning experience. There is a sense of shared interest and purpose.

- Allowing students to dabble and tinker within the subject matter, sets free creativity and reintroduces joy into the learning process. People love good stories. … Motivating students (or yourself) to start reading books (again) and to share the experience with others increases the joy of learning tremendously.
Some science behind joyful learning

- Research conducted on brain validates the fact that when the element of fun is missing from the learning, the element of actual learning taking place also remains absent.

- In a study conducted by education theorist Krashen (1982), it was proposed that when learning is associated with strong positive emotions (joy), retention of learning by students takes place.

- Clinical evidence of cognitive psychology studies show that boredom, stress, confusion, anxiety and low levels of motivation hinder learning.
What happens in joyful learning?

- Improved motivation
- Engaged learners
- Authentic Learning
- Encouraged autonomy and control
Outcomes of joyful learning

- Reshapes the structure of the brain (Thanos et al., 1999)
- Superior socialisation of learner (Piaget, 1962, Vygotsky, 1962)
- Superior academic learning (Bodrova & Leong, 2005)
- Develops empathy in learners
- If it occurs early in kindergarten, it establishes better patterns of learning in later schooling (Coolahan et al., 2000)
- Better levels of motivation, persistence and peer interaction (Shipley, 2008)
- Increases concentration, curiosity and openness (SACSA, 2009)
- Increases memory storage (Andreassen et al., 1999)
- Increases active learning (Dewey)
Enemies of the joyful classroom

- Stress and anxiety (Pawalak et al, 2003)
- Meaningless repetition and boredom (Willis, 2007)
- Uncertainty and confusion
- Intolerance, intimidation and inflexibility (Willis, 2007)
  The joyful teacher
  - Relaxed, personable and reassuring
  - Surprising and creative
  - Ordered and confident
  - Reasonable, open and accepting
How to create joyful learning in the classroom?

JOY 1: Find the Pleasure in Learning

JOY 2: Music and Rhythm

JOY 3: Give Students Choice

JOY 4: Let Students Create Things

JOY 5: Show Off Student Work

JOY 6: Towards Holistic Learning

JOY 7: Get Outside

JOY 8: Read Good Books
Teaching As Joyful Experience

A teacher is like a candle who burns itself to give light to others.

Here is an Indian scripture which personifies my view of teachers.

Even If I make the paper of Entire Earth;

And I turn all the forests into a huge pen;

And convert all the seven oceans as Ink for this pen;

I will not be able to THANK MY TEACHER ENOUGH!
Conclusion

- Characteristics of the joyful teacher
- Create a desirable physical space
- Create a desirable social and emotional environment
- Develop and use your own teaching personality
- Allow yourself to do the unpredictable
- Be a joyful person
THANK YOU