

**STUDY ON THE USE OF DRAMA IN MATHEMATICS**

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**ABSTRACT**

*Today's education system has become stressful for students. Most of the students find mathematics as a very hard subject. Many teachers who recognize the use of game-based activities like drama are beneficial in teaching and learning mathematics are taking opportunities to use such tools to make mathematical education easy and interesting for students. Drama is an innovative and creative instructional practice. Students can actively participate in this, and they may learn from what they are doing in drama. Drama is considered as a way of life. It can create a situation required for topic and gives opportunities to students to experience mathematical concepts coming across day to day life. Dramatization becomes beneficial for students to understand mathematical concepts permanently. Due to this article the use of drama in mathematics is high lightened.*



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**INTRODUCTION**

Education is nothing but preparing a person to face everyday life. The secondary education plays an important role in students overall development as it involves the study of variety of subjects like science, mathematics, languages, social science etc. among these mathematics is a subject which finds hard for most of the students.

Mathematics is the science and study of numbers, sets of points and various abstract elements together with the relations that exist between them. There should be a direct link between real life and mathematics. The life without the knowledge of mathematics would have been very difficult.

In mathematics education, like other subjects many different methods and techniques are used In order to make student play an active role in their learning. Some of these methods and techniques commonly used in mathematics are plain lecturing, question-answer, discussion, demonstration and practice, teaching by game, project based teaching etc.

*Tell me and I will forget,*

*Show me and I may not remember,*

*Involve me and I will understand.* (an old native American proverb). There was much truth to it. To make mathematics education easy there must be involvement of students.

Drama is one of the game-based methods and techniques in which the active involvement of the students is possible. It creates opportunities for students to express their mathematical thoughts and understand the mathematical concepts.

### **NEED AND IMPORTANCE OF DRAMA IN MATHEMATICS**

As mathematics is a mental activity it requires proper understanding of concepts. Drama helps in understanding the concepts. Drama positively influences the skills like reasoning, communication, problem solving etc.

Dramatization is important for students to gain experience which helps in correlating mathematics with day to day life situations. It is also essential that a social situation is used as a guideline to develop mathematical understanding. Students should be given experience in constructing true-to-life problem situation which will need the use of mathematical skill that is taught.

### **OBJECTIVES**

- 1) To check if any work is done on this before.
- 2) To give knowledge of how effectively mathematics can be teach using drama,  
So that students have better mathematic learning and to reduce the amount of mathematics anxiety the student had.

### **OBJECTIVEWISE DESCRIPTION**

- 1) Many of the contributing authors look at creative ways to use mathematics in classroom. The ideas of using drama as a medium for teaching are not new ideas. Much of the research on drama in education today can be accredited to scholars in England, Australia, New Zealand and Canada.

Many people have succeeded in bringing drama at school for mathematical education but it is lacking in many schools. It was Dorothy Heathcote, who first stated that *drama is powerful and effective method of teaching instruction because it helps connect ideas of learning to real life situation.*

Teachers who used drama to teach their students are finding it to be a very successful method.

- 2) Drama can be an important tool for teaching and learning of mathematics. Through Gardener's theories, it is evident that drama is a very effective means of reaching students with intelligence that are not reached through traditional teaching methods. As learning happens through active participation of students', drama is very suitable for it.

We can teach mathematical units like profit and loss effectively by drama. Making one boy as a greengrocer who has bought the basket of brinjals at Rs 100. And sells it at the cost bargained by a customer. We can give role of customer to few students and ask them to request to give basket of brinjals at less price. At the end of the day the greengrocer comes to know that he is not getting benefit. One of his friend explains him the meaning of terms cost price, selling price etc. and also explains to get profit you have to keep selling price more than cost price, else you will be in loss. As we are giving chance of being customer students they can come forward, play their role and then go back to their places. This type of dramatization increases involvement of students and can help in creation of situation which can develop students understanding of concept.

This is just one example of how drama can be used as method of teaching mathematics in classroom. Topics like probability, simple interest and compound interest can be taught by drama effectively.

I strongly believe that drama is also beneficial to develop valuable social skills and confidence in students.

## **CONCLUSION**

- 1) It is seen that active participation or involvement of students strengthens their abilities in variety of fields of education. Drama also allows for working in group and self awareness.
- 2) Drama is one of the best teaching methods or techniques used in mathematics education as it can easily be adapted by students.
- 3) Many students got stressed when it comes to mathematics, but drama gives teachers opportunity to teach their students in a way which would create a love for learning.
- 4) Dramatization develops greater interest and enjoyment towards mathematics.
- 5) We have only shown one topic out of many concepts and topics to showcase how can be drama useful in mathematics.
- 6) It is sure that drama can be effective strategy of teaching and learning in mathematics.

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