

A Comprehensive study of effects of Technology in Educating Children

Aabha Mayur Kshire

Lecture basis, Deep Vihar Higher Secondary School, Goa, India.

Email - sujatadani@yahoo.com

Abstract: Technology has also become a great way to improve communication and computation. Now, routine tasks, administrative functions and tedious oversight responsibilities can be handled through programmed computer systems. Technology ushers in fundamental structural changes that can be integral to achieving significant improvements in productivity. Used to support both teaching and learning, technology infuses offerings, experiences, and learning materials. Online learning opportunities and the use of open educational resources and other technologies can increase educational productivity by accelerating the rate of learning; reducing costs associated with instructional materials or program delivery; and better utilizing teacher time.

Key Words: Technology, experiences, and learning, better utilizing.

Introduction:

The era of 21st century is often regarded as an era of technology. It plays a very important role in our life. It is seen as a basis of growth of an economy. The impact of technology can be felt in every possible field and one such field is 'Education'. Technology is the term that refers to a "body of knowledge". It makes our work much easier and less time consuming. Today's children are the first generation of the "digital age." They are being raised in a society that is changing rapidly as a result of the influx of new computer-based technologies that provide more pervasive and faster worldwide links to commerce, communication, and culture.

Effects of technology on children:

The effects of technology on children are complicated, with both benefits and costs. Whether technology helps or hurts in the development of your children's thinking depends on what specific technology is used and how and what frequency it is used. At least early in their lives, the power to dictate your children's relationship with technology and, as a result, its influence on them, from synaptic activity to conscious thought.

As children continue to become more immersed in media, many adults have begun to wonder whether or not this exposure to such a high amount of electronic media is a good thing or not. On the pro side, there is an argument that technology is preparing children for the 'real world' that they will have to enter into. Sixty percent of jobs in the market are technology related, and children need the tech advantage to be successful in such an environment. On the other hand, however, others argue that children using technology are becoming socially stunted, ungrateful, and ridden with health related issues

The Positive Side of Technology for Children:

- Technology is incredibly motivational since it provides ease to students.
- Technology become more quickly engrossed in the material, and as such are able to absorb the information more quickly. Electronic material can be more stimulating and interactive for children.
- Technology facilitates new fields through simulations and three-dimensional models that would not have been accessible beforehand.
- Technology prepares students for the workforce at a young age, which is becoming more and more of a vital skill as technology in our society becomes more relevant.

- Technology accelerates and enriches basic skills. Students who have access to technology become more quickly engrossed in the material, and as such are able to absorb the information more quickly. Electronic material can be more stimulating and interactive for children.

The Negative Side of Technology for Children:

- Loss of Privacy: “We’re always connected, because we’re always connecting.”
- Constantly focusing on several tasks at once changes the way people think and behave. While children who use technology may be able to split their priority between many tasks, they have become unable to focus, due to constant bursts of new information.
- Multi-taskers actually have more trouble focusing and shutting out irrelevant information... and they experience more stress.”
- Health Related Issues due to harmful radiations. They also suffer from back pain, poor eye sight, headache etc.
- Changing Social Norms networks like face book, the more time they spend using these technologies, the more time they spend alone. So they get little time to socialize with their peers.

- **Steps for Prevention:**

- Parents should spend more time with their kids after work; create a strong bond between you and your kids, so that they feel free to ask you anything. So even when they read something on the internet they will consult you about its validity.
- Parents should note their children behaviors both online and offline. In most cases kids do what they see, so as a parent, you can block access of certain websites which might be harmful to your kids.
- If parents don’t have the technical experience, they can use a technician to help them on this. Make sure that your kids are meeting their obligations both at school and at home.

Conclusion:

As the 21st century unfolds, its revolutionary technological innovations it requires a personal decision to adapt or fall behind. Present and upcoming generations are witnessing the development of a computer driven society as far as exposure to its influence. Technology facilitates the student’s ability to make personal connections with others and provides opportunities. After looking into both the pros and cons of technology in the lives of children, it is easy to see that it gives great benefits while also posing some great risks. Parental control over how children interact with technology can be a great protection from the risks for children.

References:

1. Ainley, J., Foreman, J., & Sheret, M. : High school factors that influence students to remain in school. *The Journal of Educational Research*, 85(2), 69-80, 1991.
2. Van Scoter, J., D. Ellis, & J. Railsback. : *Technology in Early Childhood Education: Finding the Balance*. Portland, OR: Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory. 2001. www.netc.org/earlyconnections/byrequest.pdf
3. Wolfe, S., & Flewitt, R. : New technologies, new multimodal literacy practices and young children's metacognitive development. *Cambridge Journal of Education*, 40(4), 387-399, 2010.