

6. Environmental Education for The Global Human Society

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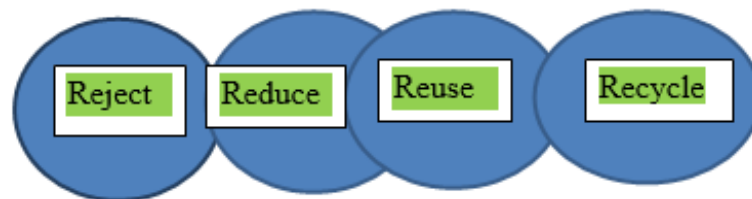
6.1 Introduction:

Environmental education is a subject in which humans are told about the ways of the natural environment and how the ecosystem should be maintained to maintain a pollution-free environment. It provides the necessary skills and specialized knowledge to meet environmental education-related challenges. The objective of environmental education is to create widespread awareness about environmental problems. It not only educates the world's population about the natural environment and its problems but also aims to develop the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to protect the natural balance in the environment.

Development of Environmental Education in 1991, the Supreme Court of India directed the government to make environmental education mandatory at all levels of education, and the government included environment in the school curriculum from 2004–05.

There are two types of environmental education: first, formal environmental education and training; this is the education for which students, working employees, administrative officers, and educated people with an interest in the environment are eligible. Informal environmental education is provided mainly to illiterate people.

Environment is the main aspect of education. Therefore, the main objective of environmental education is to create awareness among students about “Reject, Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle.”



Environment provides basis to human life! Life on earth has become possible only due to the presence of environmental elements. Due to the lack of these elements, life is not possible on other planets and satellites. Man is the best creation of this environment! All the needs of the biological community are fulfilled by the elements of the environment

Environmental protection is needed to reduce or control environmental pollution, climate change, greenhouse effect, global warming, black hole effect etc. Trees are being cut, due to which the forest area is decreasing. The water of rivers has also become polluted due to which environmental protection is very important.

Environment, or there are close relationships in human life. Both are often dependent on each other. Rather, human life is more dependent on the environmental ecosystem. That is, human life is dependent on the environment and ecological system That is, human life is dependent on the environment and ecological system.

Human life is not possible without environmental system. Still, humans want to destroy their dependent base and continue to bask in the glamor of modernity. If the environmental ecosystem continues to deteriorate in the name of industrialization, then human life on earth will become impossible.

To ensure that human life on earth always laughs, smiles and blooms, environmental protection is essential. World Environment Day is celebrated every year on 5 June to make people aware about environmental protection.

6.2 Objectives of Environmental Education:

- To help in acquiring knowledge of the contemporary environment.
- To help in acquiring knowledge of distant environments.
- To help in understanding the biological and non-biological environment.
- To help in solving the interdependent situation of life at different levels related to nutrition.
- Promoting environmental awareness.
- Encouraging environmentally responsible behavior and developing an environmental ethic.
- Promotes an understanding of the ecological interdependence of the social, political, and economic spheres.

6.3 Guiding Principles of Environmental Education:

- Consider the environment in its totality—natural and built, technological and social structures
- Environmental education should be a continuous lifesaving process.
- Environmental education should be interdisciplinary in its approach.

6.4 Relation Between Human and Environment:

There is a deep and unbreakable relationship between humans and the environment. It is human beings who clean or pollute the environment and its effect affects humans in the same way. A clean and healthy environment is very important for human society. But making the environment clean and healthy depends on humans only.

Man is impacting the environment in the following ways – Man cut forests for his livelihood. Due to indiscriminate cutting of forests, the balance of the biosphere has deteriorated. Due to the continuous degradation of forests and the removal of vegetation

from the land by humans to grow certain types of crops, the diversity of vegetation is diminishing. Man is impacting the environment in the following ways – Man cut forests for his livelihood. Due to indiscriminate cutting of forests, the balance of the biosphere has deteriorated. Due to the continuous degradation of forests and the removal of vegetation from the land by humans to grow certain types of crops, the diversity of vegetation is diminishing. Due to air and water pollution, many species of trees and plants became extinct because polluted air and water are not suitable for them. Mankind is omnivorous because it eats not only plants but also animal products as food.

As a result of indiscriminate hunting by humans, many species of animals and birds have become completely extinct and some are almost extinct. We have increased our population at such a rapid rate that it can often be considered synonymous with destruction. We are using the world's unique resources very quickly and are harming the environment in many ways. As our population increased, fertile land and forests decreased. To meet the demand of rapidly increasing population, exploitation of natural resources has also taken place at a rapid pace.

We can understand these points in following bulletins: Sure! Environmental education is about teaching people how they relate to the environment and how their actions affect it. Let's break it down in simple terms:

- **Dependence on the Environment:** Humans rely on the environment for everything—clean air to breathe, water to drink, food to eat, and a place to live. The environment provides us with these necessities.
- **Impact of Human Actions:** The things we do, like using cars, creating pollution, cutting down forests, and throwing trash, can harm the environment. These actions affect not only us but also plants, animals, and the Earth itself.
- **Balancing Act:** Environmental education teaches us to find a balance. We must use resources wisely without harming the environment. It's like using just enough so that the Earth can replenish itself.
- **Respect for Nature:** We learn to respect all living beings and the natural world. Each plant, animal, and even the tiniest insect plays a role in the ecosystem, and disturbing this balance can cause problems.

- **Conservation and Preservation:** Environmental education encourages us to conserve resources like water and energy. It also promotes preserving natural areas like parks and forests, where plants and animals can thrive.
- **Sustainable Living:** Sustainable living means living in a way that doesn't exhaust resources or harm the environment. It's about making choices that keep the Earth healthy for future generations.
- **Taking Responsibility:** We learn that we are responsible for the environment. Our actions, no matter how small, can add up and make a big difference. Being mindful of our impact is crucial.

By understanding our relationship with the environment, we can make better choices and work together to protect our planet for ourselves and for those who come after us.

In conclusion, the interdependence between humans and the environment is profound and inseparable. Human life relies fundamentally on the environment, encompassing the air we breathe, the water we drink, the food we consume, and the habitat we inhabit. However, despite this crucial reliance, human actions often harm the environment, jeopardizing our very existence.

Overexploitation of natural resources, deforestation, pollution, and habitat destruction disrupt the delicate balance of the ecosystem, leading to adverse effects on both the environment and humanity. This shortsighted approach to development, driven by rapid industrialization and unchecked population growth, poses a significant threat to the sustainability of our planet.

To ensure a harmonious coexistence, environmental education plays a pivotal role. It empowers individuals with knowledge about their environment, instills a sense of responsibility, and fosters a deep respect for all life forms and the Earth itself. Environmental education guides us towards a sustainable future by encouraging responsible behavior, promoting conservation, and advocating for a balanced, respectful relationship with nature.

On World Environment Day and every day, we must reflect on our actions and strive to protect the environment, realizing that our well-being is intricately linked to the health and

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prosperity of the planet. Only through collective efforts, responsible choices, and a profound understanding of our interconnectedness with nature can we ensure a future where human life flourishes alongside a thriving environment.