

June 30

2025

A STUDY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS OF HIGHER PRIMARY LEVEL STUDENTS

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*Journal of
YTIF*

*An International Peer Reviewed
and Referred Journal*



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Abstract:

Environment is the concern of mankind. We all wish to have a clean environment but very few of us are aware and much less feel genuinely concerned about it. Environment is the sum total of substances and forces around any organism, affecting its very existence. The world today faces problems like global warming greenhouse effect, acid rain, deforestation, overpopulation and so on. So that Environment Education has great importance as our lives to a large extent depend on our response to emerging problems related to the environment. The present study that aims at finding the level of environmental awareness among school students. in this study the investigator found that urban students have high level of environmental awareness than rural students and no significant difference is seen in environmental awareness when sex, type of school, types of residence and area were considered.

**Keywords: ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS, HIGHER PRIMARY
LEVEL STUDENTS**

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Introduction:

The advancement of science and technology made the life more and more relaxed and man also became more and more ambitious. With such development, human dependence on environment increased. He consumed more resources and the effect of his activities on the environment became more and more detectable. Environmental covers all the things present around the living beings and above the land, on the surface of the earth and under the earth. Environment indicates, in total, all of peripheral forces, pressures and circumstances, which affect the life, nature, behavior, growth, development and maturation of living beings.

Environmental Education is a science, a well-thought, permanent, lasting and integrated process of equipping learning experiences for getting awareness, knowledge, understanding, skills, values, technical expertise and involvement of learners with desirable attitudinal changes about their relationship with their natural and biophysical environment.

Environmental Awareness is a state of being conscious about environment. It may be defined as to help the individual to gain variety of information and experiences to acquire basic knowledge and understanding of environment and problems associated with it.

Statement of the Problem:

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Objectives of the study :

1. To find out the Environmental Awareness of Higher Primary Level Students in Surat city.
2. To find out the significant difference in the Environmental Awareness of Boys and Girls.
3. To find out the significant difference in the Environmental Awareness of Government and Granted school students.
4. To find out the significant difference in the Environmental Awareness of Students residing in own houses and Rental houses.

5. To find out the significant difference in the Environmental Awareness of Students from Rural and Urban area/locality.

Hypotheses of the study:

- Ho₁ There is no significant difference between the mean scores of Grade-7 Boys and Girls on Environmental Awareness.
- Ho₂ There is no significant difference between the mean scores of Grade-7 Students studying in Government and Granted schools on Environmental Awareness.
- Ho₃ There is no significant difference between the mean scores of Grade-7 Students residing in own houses and rental houses on Environmental Awareness.
- Ho₄ There is no significant difference between the mean scores of Grade-7 student from urban and rural area on Environmental Awareness.

Variables of the Study:

The investigator had taken 4 background variables for the present study. They are Gender, area of the school, type of the school and type of the residence.

Sample and Population:

All students of Grade-7 of Gujarat State who were in Gujarati Medium were the population for the present investigation. From the population, among them 200 students from two schools were taken as sample. Random sampling technique had been adopted for this study.

Tool :

The investigator constructed a standardized tool and the same was employed to seek information from the students of grade-7.

Method:

The investigator adopted the survey method of research.

Data Collection:

The selection of the tool, by the data were collected from 200 students.

Analysis of data:

(Testing of Hypotheses)

Mean, Standard Deviation and t-test were the statistical techniques used.

H₀₁ There is no significant difference between the mean scores of Grade-7 Boys and Girls on Environmental Awareness.

Table-1: Level of Environmental Awareness in Terms of Sex.

Variable	No.	Mean	SD	Calculated t-value	Remarks at 5% Level
Boys	45	13.51	3.46	1.31	Not Significant
Girls	55	15.71	3.94		

The Calculated t-Value 1.31 at 5% level is less than the table value 1.96. so, the null hypothesis is accepted.

H₀₂ There is no significant difference between the mean scores of Grade-7 Students studying in Government and Granted schools on Environmental Awareness.

Table-2 Difference in Environmental Awareness of students due to type of school

Variable	No.	Mean	SD	Calculated t-value	Remarks at 5% Level
Government	50	10.52	2.54	1.31	Not Significant
Granted	50	18.31	4.54		

The Calculated t-Value 1.31 at 5% level is less than the table value 1.96. so, the null hypothesis is accepted.

H₀₃ There is no significant difference between the mean scores of Grade-7 Students residing in own houses and rental houses on Environmental Awareness.

Table-3 Difference in Environmental Awareness of students due to type of Residence

Variable	No.	Mean	SD	Calculated t-value	Remarks at 5% Level
Own	55	27.9	2.47	1.66	Not Significant
Rental	45	16.5	1.54		

The Calculated t-Value 1.66 at 5% level is less than the table value 1.96. so, the null hypothesis is accepted.

H₀₄ There is no significant difference between the mean scores of Grade-7 student from urban and rural area on Environmental Awareness.

Table-4 Difference in Environmental Awareness of students in Terms of area/Locality.

Variable	No.	Mean	SD	Calculated t-value	Remarks at 5% Level
Rural	40	46.10	14.67	2.36	Significant
Urban	60	53.37	11.70		

The Calculated t-Value 2.36 at 5% level is greater than the table value 1.96. so, the null hypothesis is rejected.

Findings:

1. There is no significant difference in environmental awareness of students due to sex.
2. There is no significant difference in environmental awareness of students due to difference in type of school.
3. There is no significant difference in environmental awareness of students due to difference in type of Residence.
4. There is significant difference in environmental awareness of students due to area. Urban students have higher level of environmental awareness than rural students.

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