

CURIOSITY OF UPPER PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS OF GANDHINAGAR CITY

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Abstract

Curiosity has always been a cornerstone of human progress—from the early days of invention to the modern era of innovation. The innate human urge to explore, question, and understand the world begins in childhood and plays a vital role in shaping future aspirations and learning outcomes. This research investigates the level of curiosity among upper primary school students (Standards 6 to 8) in government schools of Gandhinagar city during the academic year 2022–2023. The study focuses on understanding curiosity not merely as question-asking behaviour but as an intrinsic motivation to seek knowledge, ponder deeply, and explore various facets of life. The objectives include examining the level of curiosity with respect to standard-wise and gender-wise differences among students.

Using a quantitative research design and a researcher-developed Curiosity Scale, data was collected and analysed through descriptive statistical methods. The findings indicate significant variations in the levels of curiosity across standards and between genders. Students of Standard 6 exhibited different curiosity patterns compared to those in Standards 7 and 8, with noticeable gender-based differences in all three standards. The study also reveals that curiosity among students peaks differently based on age, grade level, and individual traits.

The implications of the findings are multifaceted. Understanding students' curiosity levels can guide teachers in tailoring pedagogy, enabling personalized learning approaches that align with students' innate interests. It also equips parents with insights into their children's passions, helping them foster those interests at home. Furthermore, the study highlights curiosity as a catalyst for academic engagement and long-term success, emphasizing its value in nation-building and problem-solving in the modern world.

This study is limited to government schools within the municipal bounds of Gandhinagar city and the academic year 2022–2023. It encourages future research in broader contexts, such as private schools or curiosity's role in digital problem-solving among adolescents. Ultimately, this study

underscores the importance of identifying and nurturing curiosity early in life to unlock individual potential and drive societal advancement.

Key words: *Curiosity, Upper primary school students*