



Project Based Learning Installing Concept of Hygiene and Healthy Living

'We broke new ground in designing icons in collaboration with the rural communities. The whole project was done with the involvement of the community at every stage.'

Fouzia Latif, Teacher, The Fauji Foundation Model School

Environment and water pollution is one of the crucial problems of Pakistan. The WHO reports that 25-30% of all hospital admissions are connected to water borne bacterial and parasitic conditions, with 60% of infant deaths caused by water infections.

Ms. Azra Darbar and Ms. Fauzia Latif, secondary school teachers at Fauji Foundation Model School, Chak Shahzad Campus did their training under Intel® Teach program. In the training program they learnt how they can involve students in project based learning.

The Fauji Foundation Model School is located in an area where people are unaware of the damaging effects of poor and unhygienic living conditions. Keeping this in mind, Azra and Fauzia, decided to give their students a project based on 'Healthy Living' to create awareness regarding personal hygiene. The role assigned to the students was to investigate and understand the causes of diseases and epidemics. Students worked in groups, observed the community, researched on the internet and interviewed people to find out how poor personal hygiene and lack of awareness causes diseases and what steps can be taken to improve the conditions in their own surroundings. Finally students developed presentations, banners, flyers and distributed to community members.

The student project was vital in creating awareness among the community and helping them realize the importance of basic hygiene. As Chak shahzad is a rural based community and women-folks play a vital role in it, a health day was celebrated in school where they invited community members and the students performed skits, dramas, and recited poems; to create awareness on cleanliness and its importance in daily life.

A corner meeting with community adults was organized by the school in which awareness pamphlets, made by the students, were distributed. This inspired the adults to approach the Capital Development Authority who sent garbage trucks, and students and volunteers worked side by side to clean the garbage piles and install dustbins. Students also helped in filling the dangerous and disease spreading puddles in the streets. This initiative taken by students inspired the community that they contributed and covered the open drainage system voluntarily. Students also visited houses and helped them to understand the importance of boiling water before drinking.

A plastic bag campaign was also initiated by students who interacted with the community and briefed them on the harms of plastic bags. The students stressed on the importance of re-cycling and taught the community how to re-cycle properly.



The children of the school really changed the outlook of people not only regarding hygiene and importance of healthy living. Results were quite prominent, reduction noticed in diseases due to water pollution, community members started drinking boiled water, lot of open drainages were covered by the community members voluntarily, piles of garbage removed by students, volunteer & capital development authority, and the spraying of disinfectant in the area which is infested with mosquitoes - the root cause of epidemics and diseases.

After this project the teachers felt a marked difference in their students, in terms of responsibility towards the community as a vital, contributing member and students became more conscious of basic hygiene principles. The suggestions made by the students were practical which they began implementing in their homes and areas around.

'I am extremely happy to say that Project Based Learning methodologies, through the Intel Teach Program, made a huge difference in how our teachers interacted with and educated our students. Education is no more a bore; learning is more fun and the last year has been yet another successful year in our developmental efforts. We thank Intel for providing us with this opportunity and with the ongoing program we will exceed the in all standards of education.' Mrs. Gul Nafees Janjua, Principal