Executive summary of the UGC funded minor research project report

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Title of the study:- A study of the personality correlates of mathematically creative children

Study at a glance

Creativity is the human quality of imagination that brings new and significant things into existence. Creativity is one of mankind's greatest assets. Creative insight is an essential part of survival process and creativity holds the key to stability and prosperity of future society.

Creativity in mathematics

Human beings are symbol using animals. Mathematics is probably the oldest organized discipline of human knowledge. It is concerned with the systematic use of symbols to study the models derived from the environment and also to create abstract models which may find concrete applications. Hence the role of creativity in the development of mathematics can never be overstated.

Creativity in mathematics can be improved only if we can identify and provide the conditions that facilitate this ability. This study is a persistent effort to provide answers related to mathematical creativity.

Objectives of the study

The major objectives of this study are:
- To study the mathematical creativity of secondary school children.
- To compare the mathematical creativity of secondary school children taken in pairs on the basis of gender, locale and management of school.
- To study the relationship of mathematical creativity to each of the personality variables selected for the study namely, self concept and personal adjustment.

Method adopted

Normative survey method.

Sample for the study

500 secondary school children

Tools for the study

The tools used for the present study were:
- A comprehensive test of mathematical creativity for secondary school pupils
- Kerala self concept scale
- Personal adjustment scale

Major conclusions

The major conclusions emerged from the study are:
- There exists significant difference in the mathematical creativity of secondary school children classified on the basis of gender, locale and management of schools.
- The relationship of mathematical creativity to each of the personality variables selected for the study namely, self concept and personal adjustment is positive and significant.

The findings would help researchers to develop a more adequate theoretical framework for identifying and measuring mathematical creativity and for conceiving the relative influence of self concept and personal adjustment on it.