

GAIN IN KNOWLEDGE REGARDING HOME SCIENCE SUBJECTS THROUGH EDUCATIONAL INTERVENTION

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ABSTRACT

Anand Agricultural University runs School of Home Science to equip daughters of rural farmer to perform their day to day tasks in systematic way with scientific knowledge. The study was conducted to assess the same. Data were collected from two successive batches of students of School of Home Science before and after completion of course by interview method using questioner. It was found that, overall knowledge of the students after completion of the study was increased by 33.48%. The highest gain in knowledge was found in the Gruh udhyog subject. Most of the students had gained medium level of knowledge. This showed the training given at the school had positive effect on the knowledge gain so the training might be useful to students for performing their day to day household tasks in a systematic way in their future life.

INTRODUCTION

Rural women in our country share abundant responsibilities and perform a wide spectrum of duties in running the family. Besides this they are also time honored partners of men in various agricultural operations. All these activities are very strenuous and time consuming. It also involves lots of human resources. That results in decline in life span and affects whole family life. So it is necessary to equip them with scientific knowledge or systematic way to perform their day to day tasks. Anand Agricultural University runs School of Home Science for the same purpose for the daughters and wives of rural farmer since long time. Now, it is high time to study the impact of educational intervention on knowledge of the students of the school regarding home science subjects and household tasks.

METHODOLOGY

A self developed questionnaire under the guideline of Extension Education Department of B. A. College

of Agriculture was used for data collection. The knowledge of students of two successive batches of School of Home Science for the academic year 2005-06 and 2006-07 was assessed by interview method immediately after admission and was considered as 'Pre Test'. Out of them data of only those students who completed the study was used for analysis. For studying the impact of scientific knowledge about household tasks / home science subjects students were exposed through various effective communication media which included lectures, discussions, field visits, demonstrations, practicals, quizzes, competitions etc during the study period. The twenty one students of both the batches were interviewed again after completion of two years course and was considered as 'Post Test'. The same questionnaire was used for both the times. The data was analysed on the basis of frequency, percentage, mean and SD.

FINDINGS

Majority of students were belonging to Anand district, SEBC category and nuclear family; were

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residing in their own houses and had separate kitchen for cooking; level of education of their father were from illiterate to higher secondary and were engaged in agriculture. The knowledge of such students measured before and after

completion of the course and is discussed below.

1 Gain in knowledge :

The knowledge of the students measured was analyzed and mentioned in Table 1.

Table 1 : Knowledge gained by the home science school students

n=60

Sr. No.	Subject	Max Marks	Pre - Test		Post - Test		Increase		Rank
			Average	Percent	Average	Percent	Average	Percent	
1	Nutrition	13	3.76	28.94	6.48	49.82	02.71	20.88	VII
2	Home management	25	07.43	29.71	18.24	72.95	10.81	43.24	II
3	Child development	11	03.29	29.87	05.81	52.81	02.52	22.94	VI
4	<i>Gruh udhyog</i>	14	02.48	17.69	12.29	87.76	9.81	70.07	I
5	Sewing	26	03.90	15.02	15.14	58.24	11.24	43.22	III
6	<i>Arogya vigyan</i>	25	09.76	39.05	13.05	52.19	03.29	13.14	VIII
7	Agricultural science	19	09.38	49.37	14.67	77.19	05.29	27.82	IV
8	Animal science	14	04.19	29.93	07.90	56.46	03.71	26.53	V
9	Overall	147	44.19	29.95	93.57	63.43	49.38	33.48	

Table 1 shows that, the highest gain in knowledge was found in the *Gruh udhyog* subject (71.07%). The subject was mostly practical oriented might be the reason for the same. The similar observation was also found in case of Home management (43.24%) and Sewing (43.22%) subject. It was surprise to note that though majority of the girls were belonging to farming community their percent increase in the knowledge was only 27.82% and 26.53% for Agricultural science and Animal science subject, respectively. The gain in knowledge was the least in case of the *Arogya vigyan*.

This table also indicated that overall the average score of all the students was 44.19 marks at the

time of 'Pre-Test' and was increased to 93.57 marks at the time of 'Post-Test'. This shows that there was 33.48% increase in the overall knowledge of the students after completion of their study. This increase shows that the training given at the school had positive effect on the knowledge gain. That might be useful them to perform their day to day household tasks in a systematic way.

2 Subjectwise knowledge level of the home science school students

The subjects taught were grouped into areas and their level of knowledge were analyzed. The results obtained are presented in Table 2.

Table 2 : Subjectwise knowledge level of the home science school students

n=60

Sr. No.	Subject	High		Medium		Low	
		No.	Percent	No	Percent	No	Percent
1	Nutrition	02	09.52	14	66.67	05	23.81
2	Home management	01	04.76	19	90.48	01	04.76
3	Child development	02	09.52	17	80.95	02	09.52
4	<i>Gruh udhyog</i>	02	09.52	15	71.43	04	19.05
5	Sewing	02	09.52	15	71.43	04	19.05
6	<i>Arogya vigyan</i>	04	19.05	15	71.43	02	09.52
7	Agricultural science	06	28.57	11	52.38	04	19.05
8	Animal science	02	09.52	13	61.90	06	28.57
9	Overall	03	14.29	14	66.67	04	19.05

Most of the students gained knowledge in the medium level. In the Agricultural science subject the highest number of students gained high level of knowledge (28.57%) followed by *Arogya vigyan* (19.05%). Rest in all the subjects the high level knowledge gain was found 9.52% except Home management subject in which it was found the least i.e. 4.76%. In the same subject the gain in low level knowledge was also found the least i.e. again 4.76%. It showed that most of all the student gained similar level of knowledge. Additionally, the total percentage of knowledge increased was also high. It shows that all the students learned this subject properly. The low level of gain in knowledge was the highest in the Animal science subject and the percent increase in this subject was also observed low. It had indicated that some students were weak in gaining the knowledge. Similar observations were also made in case of Nutrition subject. In case of the Child development subject the gain in knowledge was low (22.94%) but most of the students (80.95%) gained knowledge in the

medium level. It proved that all the students could not learn the subject properly.

CONCLUSIONS

It was observed that gain in knowledge was higher in case of practical oriented subjects. Overall 33.48% knowledge was increased during their study. It had indicated that the training given at the school had positive effect on the gain in knowledge. Most of the students had gained medium level knowledge in all the subjects. The increase in gain in knowledge and knowledge level combinedly indicated that all the students learned Home management subject properly.

IMPLICATION

The increase in knowledge shows that the training given at the school had positive effect on the knowledge gain which might be useful them to perform their day to day household tasks in a systematic way in their future life.

To be interesting be intrested