**Call for Papers: Exploring Creativity in the Indian Education System**

The rapid advancement of technology and the complexities of modern life necessitate a paradigm shift in our educational approaches. Creativity stands as a cornerstone in this transformative journey, essential for nurturing innovative thinkers and problem-solvers. This call for papers invites researchers, educators, and scholars to delve into the multifaceted realm of creativity within the Indian education system, exploring its significance, definitions, indigenous perspectives, and the pressing need for further research.

**The Importance of Creativity in Education**

The importance of fostering creativity in our education system for upcoming generations cannot be overstated. As we navigate an increasingly complex and rapidly changing world, the ability to think creatively and innovatively is becoming a crucial skill for success and progress. It is imperative that we make conscious efforts to imbibe creativity in our children, equipping them with the tools they need to tackle future challenges and contribute meaningfully to society. Also, creativity is pivotal in equipping the upcoming generations with the skills needed to navigate an ever-evolving world. It fosters critical thinking, problem-solving, and adaptability—attributes essential for personal and professional success. As we prepare our children for future challenges, it is imperative to consciously integrate creativity into our educational framework. This involves not only teaching creative skills but also creating environments that encourage imaginative thinking and innovation.

**Defining Creativity and Reimagining its Place in Schools**

Creativity, however, is a multifaceted concept with various definitions and interpretations. Torrance (1966) defined creativity as the process of sensing problems, forming ideas or hypotheses, testing and modifying these hypotheses, and communicating the results. Sternberg and Lubart (1999) viewed creativity as the ability to produce work that is both novel and appropriate. Creativity is often defined as the ability to produce original and valuable ideas, and encompasses a wide spectrum of activities and thought processes. Definitions vary, with some emphasizing divergent thinking and others focusing on the generation of novel solutions to problems (Guilford, 1950; Runco & Jaeger, 2012). In the context of education, creativity can be seen as both a process and an outcome, involving imaginative exploration and the application of knowledge in new ways. In reimagining how we imbibe creativity in schools, we must consider these diverse perspectives and develop a holistic approach that encompasses problem-solving, divergent thinking, and innovative expression.

Imbibing creativity in schools requires rethinking traditional pedagogies and assessment methods. Measuring and assessing creativity presents significant challenges due to its subjective nature. Traditional standardized tests often fall short in capturing the essence of creative thinking. As Runco (2007) points out, creativity assessment requires a multidimensional approach that considers both cognitive and non-cognitive factors. This complexity necessitates the development of more nuanced and culturally relevant assessment tools, for example, alternative assessment strategies such as portfolio reviews, project-based learning, and peer evaluations (Kaufman, Plucker, & Baer, 2008). These methods offer a more nuanced understanding of a student's creative abilities and potential.

**Indigenous Perspectives on Creativity**

While much of the current discourse on creativity in education draws from Western perspectives, there is a pressing need to shift towards a more indigenous way of looking at creativity in the Indian context. The Western idea of creativity often emphasizes individualism, but our rich cultural heritage offers a more holistic and collectivist approach to creativity. We must explore our indigenous ways of fostering creativity, drawing inspiration from our traditions in art, literature, and problem-solving that have thrived on collaborative efforts and community wisdom. Indigenous ways of creativity often involve community collaboration, cultural expression, and a deep connection to the natural environment. For instance, traditional art forms, folk music, and community-based problem-solving highlight the collective nature of creative endeavors in Indian society (Tripathi & Devi, 2008).

To foster a truly creative education system, it is crucial to integrate these indigenous perspectives. This involves recognizing and valuing the diverse forms of creativity that exist within Indian culture and creating educational practices that support collective creativity. By doing so, we can nurture a generation of students who are not only innovative but also culturally grounded and community-oriented.

**A Call for Research**

The integration of creativity into the Indian education system is of paramount importance for the development of future generations. However, there is a significant gap in research that explores this area from an indigenous perspective. We call upon researchers, educators, and policymakers to engage in rigorous studies that examine how creativity can be effectively nurtured and assessed in Indian schools.

Research is needed to explore the following:

* The impact of creative pedagogies on student learning and development.
* Effective methods for assessing creativity in diverse educational contexts.
* The role of indigenous knowledge systems in fostering creativity.
* Strategies for creating school environments that support imaginative thinking and innovation.
* Explores indigenous models of creativity in the Indian context
* Develops culturally appropriate methods for fostering and assessing creativity in Indian schools

By contributing to this body of research, we can ensure that creativity becomes a core component of our education system, paving the way for a future where our children are equipped with the skills and mindset to thrive in an ever-changing world.

**Conclusion**

The importance of creativity in education cannot be overstated. It is the key to unlocking the potential of future generations and addressing the complex challenges of the modern world. We urge scholars and educators to take up the mantle of research in this critical area, contributing to the development of an education system that values and nurtures creativity in all its forms.

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