

Exceptional children

EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN



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Introduction

Exceptional children are those who deviate significantly from the normal ones, An exceptional child deviates from the normal or average child in that in that he required mental, physical, emotional and social characteristics to such an extent that he required service or modification of school practices or special education supplementary instruction in order to develop his maximum capacity.



Meaning and Definition of Exceptional Children

Meaning - Normal children are called those who are of average grade whereas exceptional children are children who are less or more than the average. Average category means who are physically, mentally, emotionally, socially, economically average quality in children, then it is called an exceptional or special child.

Definition -

According to Crow and Crow - “A specific type or specific term is applied to a person possessing such qualities or that virtue, because of which the person attracts the specific attention of his or her peers.”



Definition

According to Cruickshank – “A special child is he who deviates intellectually, physically, socially or emotionally markedly from normal growth and development that he cannot be benefited from a regular classroom program and needs special treatment in school.



Characteristics of Exceptional Children

Characteristics of exceptional children can be explained in the following words -

1. Variation from average – Exceptional or special children are called children who are different from normal or average children. Any deviation from average qualities and characteristics puts children in the category of exceptional or special children.

2. One or more area - Exceptional or special children may have specificity in any one or many areas. Just like there is a disabled child as well as a genius. There are two specialties in this person. Sometime the status of a special child is conferred on the basis of only one specialty can be in any one or areas.

Characteristics of Exceptional Children

3. Not benefited from general education – Exceptional or special children are not benefited from general education, special education is arranged for those children . such children feel neglected during general education.

4. Need of special education – The concept of exceptional or special children is based on providing special education for children. By identifying special children ,such children are used to connect to the mainstream of education.

5. Both excess and scarcity The characteristics of special children is not only in the form of excess, but on average, deficiency is also accepted as speciality. Like the excess or lack of intelligence.

Characteristics of Exceptional Children

6. Reformative form - The form of the concept of the exceptional or special child is reformative. Under this, they are provided remedial teaching by identifying children. While providing teaching such children, their specialty is kept in mind.



Education of Exceptional or special Children

Education of exceptional or special children has been challenging from the beginning ,after identifying special children, the following types of education should be provide -

1. Making separate school
2. Making separate section
3. Class- up gradation or promotion



4. Easy and complex curriculum according to specialty

5. Arrangement of special classes

Education of Exceptional or special Children

6. Appointment of effective teacher

7. Increasing and decreasing difficulty level in class work and home work according to specialty

8. Encouragement to self study

9. Change in teaching method

10. Facility of library



Education For exceptional or special children

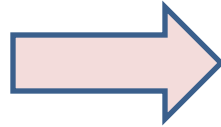
11. Scholarship arrangement
12. Respect to individual differences
13. Not treat as a special child.
14. Giving individual teaching .
15. Providing training of leadership .
16. Participation in co-curricular activities.
17. Providing medical help and check up.
18. Appointment of good counselor.



All the above points are explained in detail under different headings .

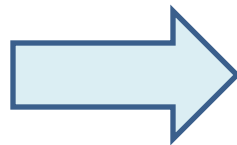
Type of exceptional children

Intellectually Exceptional



- A. Gifted Children
- B. Backward Children
- C. Mentally retarded Children
- D. Creative Children
- E. Underachiever Children
- F. Learning Disabled Children

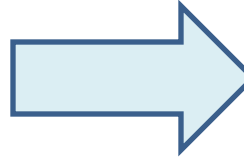
Physically Exceptional



- A. Deaf and dumb Children
- B. Blind and near blind Children
- C. Children with speech defects

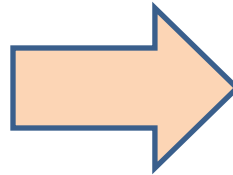
Type of exceptional children

Emotionally Exceptional



Delinquents

Socially Exceptional



Underprivileged
Children



Many type of children study in the classroom, a teacher teaching keeping in the mind the average children of the class. In such a situation, the special child of the class feel neglected in the classroom or their learning is interrupted. It is difficult to educate special children without solving special problems. For this we need to know and understand the types and characteristics of special children. There are many types of exceptional or special children, in view of the convenience of study, some special children are being studied in detail -





Gifted Children

Meaning of the Gifted Children -

Exceptional children are those who deviate significantly from the normal ones. An exceptional child deviates from the normal or average child in that he required mental, physical and social characteristics to such an extent that he required service or modification of school practices or special education supplementary instruction in order to develop his maximum capacity.

Definitions of Gifted Children

According to Skinner and Heryman – “The term ‘Gifted’ is used for the 1 percent of children who are the most intelligence.”

Characteristics of Gifted children

Characteristics of gifted children are characterized by many psychologists such as Skinner, Harryman, Hollingworth, Torrance, Seagoe, Witty, etc. have made it clear, listing all the type of attributes can be explained in the following from -

In comparison to children of his own age group is superior in some ability or group of abilities.

He knows about many things of which most student are unaware.

He learns rapidly and easily ,and retains it without much drill.

He has a rich vocabulary marked by originality, which he uses easily and accurately.



Characteristics of Gifted children

He is extremely inquisitive and quick in understanding

A gifted child is much original in thinking uses good unusual method

He is alert, keenly observant and respond quickly

His span of attention is broader and he could perform difficult mental task.

TEACH IT!



Problem arising before the gifted or talented children

1. They have early learning, which does not take care of them in the classroom.
2. Teaching the average children through the teacher ,so that their attention does not seem to class-teaching.
3. Such children try to get special attention in the classroom, which causes the problem.
4. Such children get bored very quickly.
5. Such children expected a talented teacher ,generally there is a shortage of school.
6. Due to early learning ,such children are gradually.
7. Such children strive to separate themselves from the average children of the classroom.

Problem arising before the gifted or talented children

8. Such children not adjust the class.
9. Such children expected special attention to the teacher when it does not happen , they start becoming anti-social and anti-teachers.
10. Separate class work and homework are not provided to such children which they become indifferent to education.
11. Such children are more curious and ask a variety of question.

There are many reasons that have difficulty in adjusting the gifted or talented children in the classroom ,sometime the children feel neglected.



Identification of gifted children

- Group tests of intelligence are useful as preliminary screening device then a standardized achievement test may be used to identify gifted children.

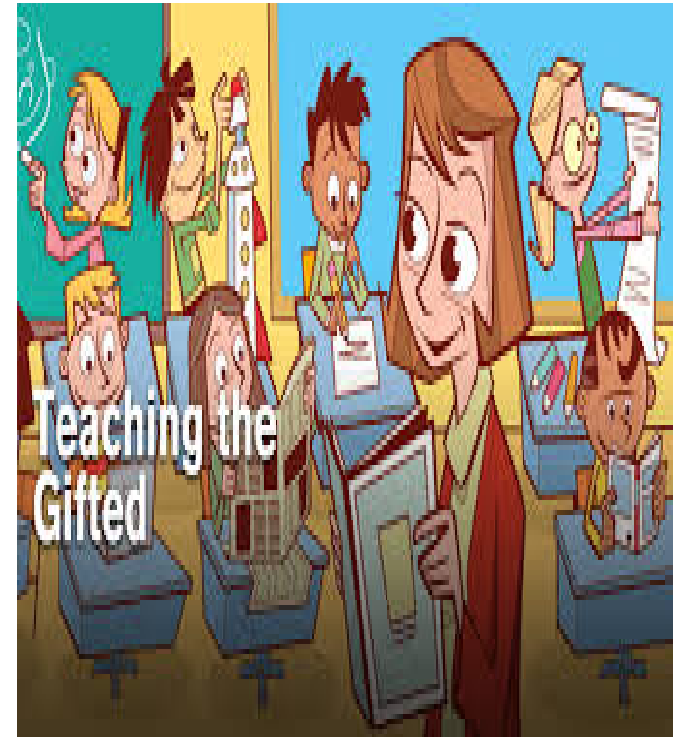
School marks and records of pupils achievements.

Observation in the classroom and outside the classroom.



Education of gifted children

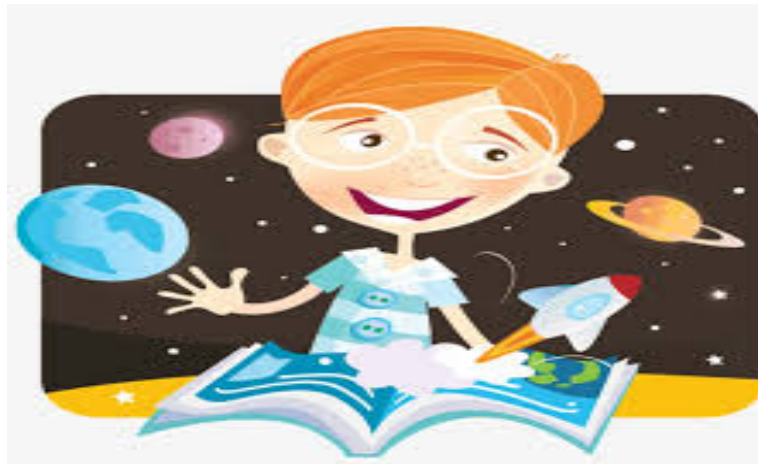
- 1. Making separate schools.
- . Making separate section .
- Class- up gradation.
- Complex Curriculum.
- Arrangement of special class.
- Appointment of effective teacher
- Increasing difficulty level
- Encouragement to self study.
- Change in teaching method.
- Respect to individual differences.
- Arrangement of scholarships.



Education of gifted children

- Not treating as a special child.
- Giving individual teaching.
- Training of leadership.
- Participation in co-curriculum activity.

Special arrangements are required for talented children, otherwise they will start to become maladjusted. Teachers and the school should be made continuous efforts for gifted or talented children.



The backward child

A backward child is one who compared with other pupils of the same age shows marked education deficiency. Backwardness in general is applied cases where their educational attainment falls below the level of their nature abilities.

Definition of backward children

According to Burt – “A slow learner is a child who is unable to cope with the work normally expected of his age group.”

The IQ of slow learners usually range from 70 to 90.



Characteristics of backward child

- He is a slow learner and feels difficulty in keeping pace with the normal school work.
- His education attainments falls below his natural abilities.
- He falls behind other children of his age in matters of study.
- He is necessary a failure in the academic field and shows educational improvement.
- His span of attention and concentration are short has short reaction time.
- His ability to evaluate materials for relevancy is limited and has got limited power of self direction.



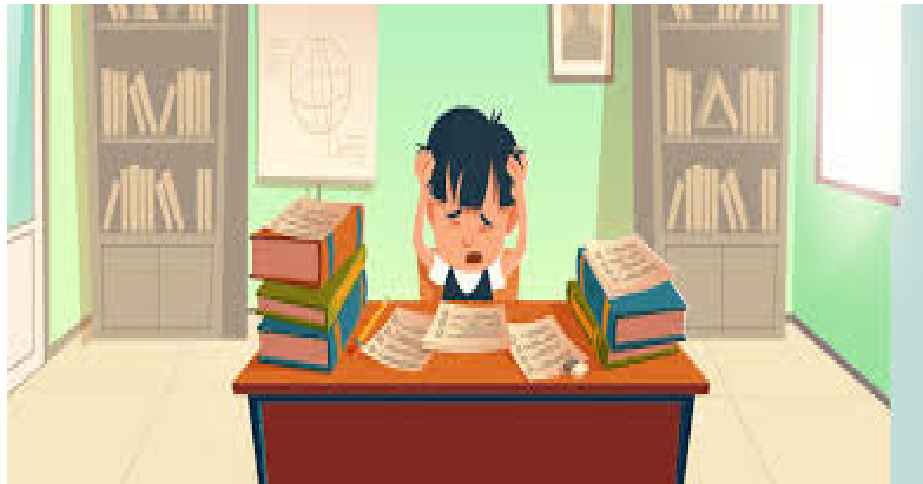
Causes of Backwardness

- ❖ Physical and physiological factor.
- ❖ Intellectual sub normality.
- ❖ Family problem.
- ❖ School factors such as defective, uninteresting and in effective teaching. Lack of equipments and facilities,defactive curriculum and examination system, poor administration, improper attitude if teacher, etc.
- ❖ Social factors such as influence of neighborhood peer,etc.



Identification of backward child

- **Identifying features of Backward children** - By observing physical, mental, social and moral characteristics.
- **Tools and techniques** – Achievement test, Diagnostic test, attitude aptitude test, situational test, medical examination and student records.



Problem of Backward children

- Too difficult class work.
- Lack of motivation for learning.
- Lack of belief in himself.
- Fear of failure and lacks ability and confidence.
- Anxiety.



Education of Backward child

- Regular medical check-up and necessary treatment.
- Readjustment in the home and school.
- Provision of special schools or special classes.
- Provision of special curriculum, method of teaching and special teachers.
- Special coaching and proper individual attention.
- Provision for co-curriculum activities, rich experiences and diversified courses.
- Rendering guidance service
- Controlling negative environment factors.



Mentally retarded children

Children who have lower than average intelligence, that is, less than 90, are considered, mentally retarded children. Whereas, at present, the basis of retardation is not only to consider intelligence but also to include adjustment behaviour. Children

Definition of mentally retarded children

According to Crow and Crow - “Boys whose intelligence is less than 70 are called retarded children”

According to the American association on mental Deficiency (AAMD,1973) - “Mental retardation refers to a significantly lower Average intellectual capacity, which is associated with a decrease in accommodative behavior. And whose expression is in the developmental period.”

Mentally retarded children

It is clear from the definitions that students whose intelligence is lower than normal children who have difficulty adjusting and whose learning level is lower than average children are called 'mentally retarded children.'



Characteristics of Mentally retarded children

- Dependent behavior
- Problem in transfer of learning
- Difficulty in decision taking

Based on above points, it is clear that there are many types of characteristics of mentally retarded children, which makes them in the category of special children. it is also necessary to arrange special kind of education for such children.



Classification of mentally retarded children

Mild mental retardation - IQ level - In between 50 to 70

Moderate mental retardation - IQ Level - In between 35 to 50

Severe mental retardation - IQ Level - In between 20 to 35

Profound mental retardation - IQ Level is Less than 20.



Education for Mentally retarded children

The following types of education system can be adopted for the education for such children -

1. Simplification of Curriculum
2. Arrangement of Special classes
3. Special teaching method
4. Special school
5. Establishment of Residential schools
6. Training of general behavior
7. Sympathetically behavior
8. Individual teaching

Such children are generally ignored by parents. Such children should be provided training to perform normal behavior and daily life tasks. So That later they can make a living in the society.



Creative child

- A creative child is one who has got an ability to create, discover or produce a new idea or objects including the arrangement or reshaping of what is already known to him.
- A creative child is curious , resourceful, flexible, open – minded, sensitive to problems and shows originality of ideas and expression.

Definition of creative child -

According to Skinner – “ A creative thinker is one who explores new ideas and makes new observation, new predictions and inferences.

Why Creativity Is Important to Child Development?



Characteristics of creative children

- He demonstrates originality in ideas and action.
- He develops institution in his problem.
- Possesses a high degree of keenness, attentiveness alertness, and power of concentration.
- He is very curious by nature and possesses for sightedness in abundance.
- Possesses a high degree of sensitivity towards problems.
- He demonstrates the ability to transfer learning from one situation to another.
- He demonstration very rich creative imagination and divergent and diversified in his thinking.



Role of the Teacher

- Develop divergent thinking.
- Giving opportunities and atmosphere for creative expression.
- Give freedom for students.
- Give creative activities



Special Techniques for Fostering Creativity

- **Elaboration** - Giving skeleton outline of a problem and elaboration of problem which give individual to develop from it.
- **Brain Storming**
- **Synectics** - It is a creative problem solving technique which uses analogies, metaphors and fantasy to trigger idea generation.



Underachievers

- An underachiever is a learner whose achievement consistently falls well below his potential ability.
- If the achievement of a learner is poorer than might have been predicted from intelligence tests, he is called as underachievement.
- It is a discrepancy between potential achievement and actual achievement.
- James defined underachievers as those subjects who achieved academically at a level below what would be expected for the individuals ability level.



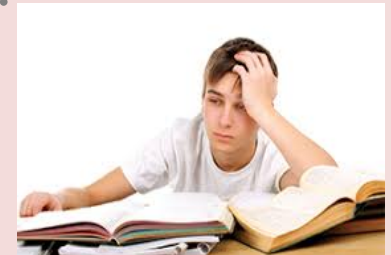
Types of Underachiever

- 1. Situational underachievers** – This types of children only achieve on occasions, apparently when the mood takes them. These children have few long – term problem.
- 2. Chronic underachievers** – This type of individuals seldom achieve up to their ability. It is mostly due to physiological or developmental reasons. They show permanent emotional problems. 80 percent of use in this category are boys.



Characteristics to Underachiever

- ❑ They show a discrepancy between ability and achievement.
- ❑ The primary characteristics is one of low self-esteem.
- ❑ Poor study habits , un-mastered skills and social and discipline problem.
- ❑ Poor school performance causes variety of emotional symptoms.
- ❑ They show learning disabilities of diverse nature.
- ❑ They possess low internal locus of control.
- ❑ They have poor test result at school and no hobbies.
- ❑ They have a low self image often displaying distrust , indifference, and lack of concern and hostility.
- ❑ They have little motivation with poor study habits.
- ❑ They have less self-confidence.



Causes of Underachiever

- **Physical Factors** – Defects of sense organs physical and motor handicaps, etc
- **Socio- psychological factor** – Poor self- esteem, low levels of self confidence etc
- Family related factor
- Poor fit between the child and the school placement.
- School related factor



Education of underachiever

- Early identification and counseling.
- Special classroom.
- Flexibility of curriculum, adjusting instructional strategies, varied learning style option etc
- Proper home school interaction.
- Providing appropriate help when needed.





Learning Disable Children

Learning disabilities is a new concept, a psychologist named '**Samuel**' did extensive research on this in 1962 and threw light on the topic of learning disabilities. Learning disabilities means '**children who are not able to learn.**' Children who are disable from learning or learning are called '**children with learning disabilities**'.

Meaning of children with learning disability

A child with learning disabilities means a child who experiences learning difficulties during classroom teaching. Such children have more difficulty in learning than other children. Not being able to learn during classroom teaching is considered a form of disability. Generally in class teaching is expected to everyone.

Definition of child with learning disabilities

According to the National joint committee for Learning Disability 1981 - “Learning disabilities is a basic word that refers to a group of children who are commonly referred to as writing, reading, learning, listening, reasoning and mathematics etc. difficulties are experienced in doing things in a meaningful way. Such difficulties are due to the impairment of the individual’s central nervous system.



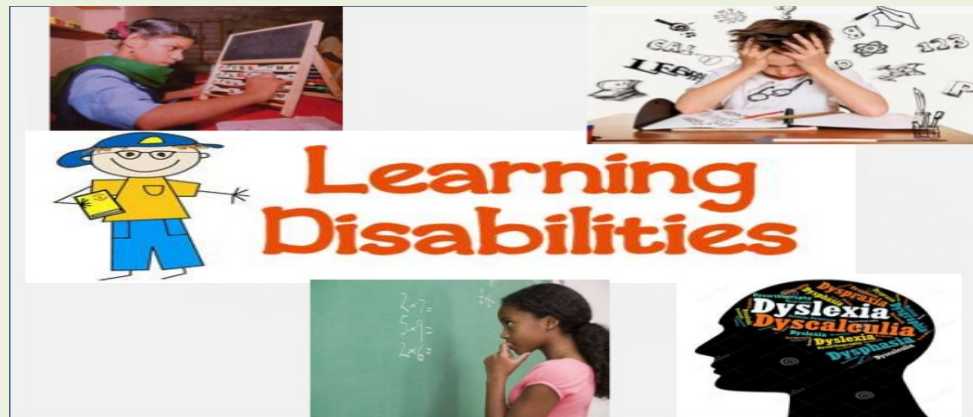
Characteristics of learning disabilities children

- Such children are normal children ,whose intelligence is equal to the average.
- There is learning disabilities in one or more subjects. Such as mathematics or science or English or in all subjects.
- These children have emotion instability , they are very fickle.
- They have difficulty in concentrating.
- These can be corrected through general treatment.
- Classroom teaching has a greater impact on learning abilities.
- Learning related activities are of low.

Learning disability can also be explained on the basis of a single subject or a skill such that a child performs well in other subjects but is weak in mathematics. This is a learning disabilities of a maths subject. Mostly this is the case, normal children are not disabled in all subjects and are in any one subject.

Types of learning disabilities -

- Disabilities in reading or reading , writing , listening and pronunciation.
- Disabilities in language and expression.
- Disabilities in mental powers such as reasoning, thinking, imagination, memory, meditation, observation, etc.
- Disabilities of understanding of mathematics and mathematical concepts.
- Disabilities in science and scientific activities.



Identification of learning disabilities

Identification of learning disabilities does not require any special tests, it can be done easily during classroom teaching. If you want to use standardized test, then the following types of tests can be used –

1. Modern math understanding test, MMUT.
2. Saroj Arora Created Biology achievement test (BAT)
3. Dr. Sengupta's General classroom Achievement Test.
4. California achievement test, etc.
5. SRA achievement test. Etc.

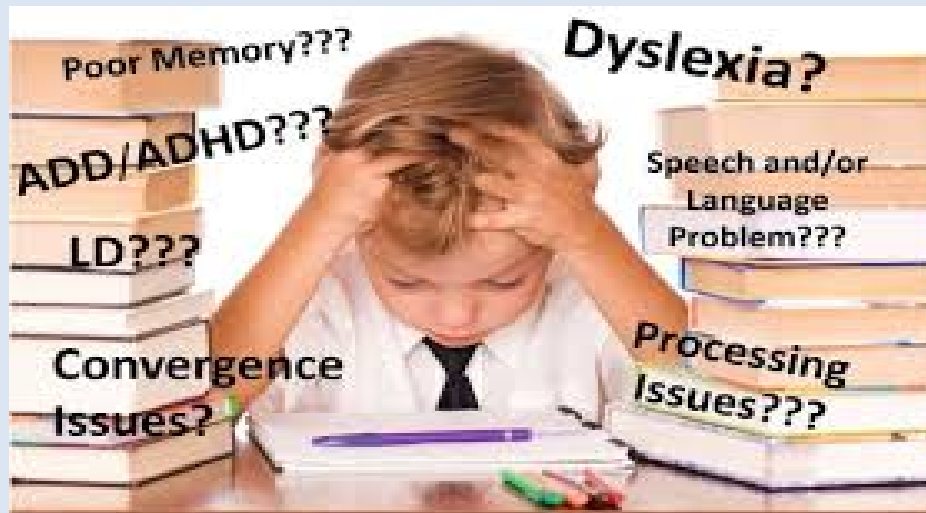


Cause of learning disabilities

- ❖ There can also be 'genetic causes' of learning disabilities. Gene-related factors have an impact on learning disabilities.
- ❖ Children are unable to get adequate nutritious food.
- ❖ Having some kind of 'mental illness'.
- ❖ Any kind of 'physical injury' which has an effect on the brain.
- ❖ The effect of the 'contaminated environment' of the family also increases disabilities.
- ❖ The children's housing area to be in a dirty, dense and labor settlement.
- ❖ The teacher of the subject to be uninterested and 'monotonous teaching'.
- ❖ Children having 'prejudice or fear' about the difficulty of the subject.

Cause of learning disabilities

- Children senses do not 'act properly', that is, not to be heard, not to be seen, or not to pronounce, stuttering, etc.
- Not having opportunities for speaking and activity in the classroom.
- Children suffer from some kind of 'psychological problem' such as anxiety, stress, frustration etc.



Education of learning disabled children

For the education of children with learning disabilities, we need to know the area of learning disabilities of children. That is, children should have knowledge of what subject or in which activity they are facing disabilities. That can solve those problem . It has the following measures and following types of education should be provided to such children –

1. Different type of tests should be used in the school from time to time to check the shortcoming and disabilities of the children.
2. Classroom teaching should be made interesting and effective. For this teaching aids should be used.
3. Democratic teaching methods like play way method, activity method, project method etc, should be used.
4. Individual learning should be provide to such children.

Education of learning disabled children

5. Education should be imparted such children along with normal children and they should be kept in normal school only.
6. Such children should be imparted education through language laboratory, programmed instruction, computer aided instruction etc.
7. Encouragement and motivation should be provided to such children from time to time.
8. Counselor should be appointed in the school. Conducting counseling program from time to time.
9. They should be treated sympathetically.
10. Opportunities should be provided to children for teaching along with theoretical subject in school as well as other activities.

Education of learning disabled children

We can make children with learning disabilities eligible by taking many of the above measures. Currently the number of children with learning disabilities is increasing. In every school and class there are many children who are learning disabled in some or the other subject, the reason for their backwardness is not only the lack of mental ability but also other educational and school factors which must be addressed.



Physically handicapped Children

Meaning of disability -

Children who do not have one or more than one normal physical organ either by birth or do not function normally or go away later due to some disease. Accident or injury. Such children are called disabled or handicapped. Presently, the word '**Divyang**' is being used by the Modi government in place of the word disabled.

Definition of children with disabilities -

According to Crow and Crow - “ A person who has any type of physical defect that prevents or limits him from participating in normal activities in any form, we can him a disabled person.”

Characteristics & Problem of Disabled children

- Difficult in adjustment
- Difficulty in daily life tasks
- Dependency
- Negligence from society
- Difficulty in general education
- Emotional imbalance
- Fatalist



Causes of physical disability

Cause can be many reasons for physical disability, given

bellow –

- Hereditary cause
- Lack of medical check up during pregnancy
- Lack of proper nutrition during pregnancy
- Lack of nutrition after birth
- Lack of vaccination
- Severe illness
- Major accident
- Drug addiction

There are some reason that cause disability, some children are disabled from birth and some children later become disabled due to some reason. Both type of children have to face different type of problems related to learning and adjustment. Problem and solutions very depending on the type of disability.

Identification of children with physical disabilities

Medical examination should be done to identify children with physical disabilities. Complete disability is easy to detect, but some children have partial disability. Partial disability is comparatively difficult to identify. The role of teachers is important in identifying such children. Such children must be identified compulsorily. So that they can be provided remedial teaching.

Type of Handicapped children

1. Orthopedic handicapped children
2. Visually handicapped children
3. Hearing handicapped children
4. Speech handicapped children
5. Mentally handicapped children

Orthopedic handicapped children

One who suffers from a defect that is accomplished by one or other type of deformity that inhibits the normal exercise of his muscles joints or bones.

Cause

1. Hereditary

2. Congenital causes – infection, maternal, malnutrition etc

3. Acquired causes – birth injury, accidents etc.



Education provisions for Orthopedic handicapped children

- Vocational training
- Adjust the school equipment
- Access to school facility
- Health programs
- Provide recreational facilities



Visually handicapped children

- They are one who suffers from total or partial visual impairment. It will affect the life of the individual in physical, mental, social, educational and vocational aspects.
- Major Problem – Poor intelligence, Academic retardation, personality disorder, problems in social adjustment.



Education provisions Visually handicapped children

- **Education of totally blind children** – Residential blind school, Providing special equipment, physical and art education, vocational training.
- **Education of partially sighted children** – Special class, special co-scholastic activities, Minimum visual tasks, proper class room arrangements for them.



Hearing handicapped children

They are those who have difficulty in hearing either one or both or have no power of hearing at all.

Causes – Genetic defects, prenatal cause, perinatal causes, postnatal causes (brain fever, whooping cough etc.)
Psychological causes (emotional depression and trauma),
Accidents, severe burns, toxic drugs etc.



Education Hearing handicapped children

Education Provision – Use hearing aid. Speech reading , Vocational training, Preschool education, Classroom arrangements.



Speech Handicapped Children

Those whose speech deviates so far from the speech of other people. That it calls the attention to itself, interferes with communication or causes discomfort or distress to speaker or listener.

Types of Speech Disorder

1. **Disorder of articulation** – It includes distortion omission, etc.
2. **Disorder of phonation** – Deviation in loudness quality, pitch or intensity of sound.
3. **Delayed Speech** - not speak at the usual age due to lack of motivation.
4. **Stuttering and Stammering** – Repetition of sounds, irregularities of breathing etc.



Speech Handicapped Children

Cause –

- Organic causes
- Function causes – imitation
- Psychological causes – emotion, feeling etc.
- Influence of social environment



Role of Teacher –

- Direct them to language therapist
- Giving speech training
- Care for the imparted children
- Giving extra-curricular activity



Emotional Exceptional Children

Delinquent child

- A delinquent child or juvenile delinquent is one who deviates seriously from the norms of his culture or society and commits such acts that, if committed by an adult would be punishable as crimes.
- According to **Newmeyer**, a delinquent is a person under age who is guilty of anti-social and whose misconduct is an infraction of law.



Characteristics of Delinquent child

Sheldon and gluecks identified the following Characteristics –

- **Physical** – They are mesomorphic in construction, muscular and bold.
- **Temperament**- Restlessly energetic, impulsive, extraverted, aggressive and destructive.
- **Attitude** – Hostile, defiant, resentful, suspicious, unconventional and non-submissive to authority.
- **Psychological** – Tending to direct and concrete rather than symbolic in intellectual expression and less methodological towards problem.
- **Socio-cultural** – Lack of affection, stability, moral standard of parents usually unfit to guide them effectively.



Causes of Delinquency

- **Heredity**
- Constitutional deformity which give rise to feeling of inferiority, more aggressive.
- **Family factors like broken family, improper parental control etc.**
- School factors like defective curriculum, improper teaching method etc.



Role of Teacher

- ❖ Educate the parents to understand their children.
- ❖ Save the child from bad company and antisocial environment .
- ❖ Remove students from defective neighborhood.
- ❖ Rectify the school education and school environment by making it healthy and congenial.
- ❖ The impulses and emotion of children must be sublimated.
- ❖ Provide moral and religious teaching in school.



Socially Exceptional

Underprivileged Children -

An underprivileged child is one who lacks access to basic needs such as proper education, healthcare, food, or opportunities due to poverty or social disadvantage. These children face challenges in their overall growth and development.



Characteristics of underprivileged child

- Possess low intellectual level
- They show poor academic performance, premature school termination and high dropout rate.
- Shows a high index of linguistic disabilities.
- They are apathetic, unresponsive and lack initiation.
- They have more anxiety, low frustration tolerance, low attention span and Distraction in learning.
- Have poor self-concept and low level of aspiration.
- They show belief in external factors like luck, chance etc.



Causes of underprivileged child

- ❖ Lack of education environment in the home.
- ❖ Lack of adequate encouragement to go to school.
- ❖ Lack of good health and proper diet for children.
- ❖ Lack of sufficient language and reading skills.
- ❖ Religious or caste prejudices.
- ❖ Chronic unemployment, social isolation, humiliation and inferiority feeling due to indifference of others.
- ❖ Poor parent-child relationship.



Problem of underprivileged child

Linguistic problem

- Poor cognitive background
- Low level of aspiration
- Learning difficulties
- Motivational problem



Educational provision for underprivileged child

- Head Start Program – It is a summer program for socially and culturally disadvantaged child.
- Specialization or remedial programmes for them.
- Establish residential schools for them

Education provision for underprivileged child

- Give financial aids
- Appoint expert teacher who have got training for giving proper guidance to them.
- Give compensatory pre-school education.
- Vocationalise the education.





THANK
YOU