

RESEARCH PAPER

Computers in children's education- Effects and needs

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ABSTRACT

Children use computers on daily basis at school and at home. They use computers both for education and recreation. Proponents for the use of high-tech equipment in education, many parents, teachers and policy makers argue that children need to become competent computer user instead of watching television, for coping with the demands of work places later in life. Computer technology is rapidly transforming society and the task of influencing that transformation in children education needs to be encouraged. Children learn and experience through the use of computers. It can ensure that all children are empowered to use computers effectively and creatively.

Key Words : Computers, Children, Education, Effects, Needs

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When first introduced, computers were almost exclusively used by adults. Today, thousands of children use computers every day at school and at home (Subrahmanyam and Kraut, 2000). Children increasingly use these devices both for education and recreation (Anonymous, 2000). This has raised questions about how the use of computer technology may make a difference in their lives - from helping with homework to causing depression to encouraging violent behaviour.

Proponents for the use of high-tech equipment in education, many parents, argue as follows:

- Computers improve the child's academic achievement.
- The earlier a child is introduced to the use of computers, the better will he or she be prepared for coping with the demands of workplaces later in life and the greater is the likelihood of a successful future.
- If the latest technology does not find its way into general education, many children, especially those from low-

income families, will miss out and be disadvantaged.

- Today computer related technology is playing a decisive role in accessing information. Learning is highly dependent on information and on linking to the world. Therefore, computers need to be available for students.
- Computers are great motivators for learning and they



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