

ROLE OF SCHOOL LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION SERVICES IN PROMOTING BASIC EDUCATION IN JIGAWA STATE

¹GamboKwara

ABSTRACT--Almost all civilizations recognized the fact that dissemination of information to the children is as important as to the adults; but unfortunately, children's information needs have received very little attention in jigawa state. In this paper "Role of school libraries and information services in promoting basic education in jigawa state" we highlighted the significance of school libraries as a means of promoting basic education, with provision of adequate services and orientation to its clientele. A school library is a stimulating place which both satisfies and arouses a desire for knowledge that provides new experiences. A basic education which evolve the programs and instruction that are intended to provide students with the opportunity to become responsible and respectful in their daily life, is hereby discussed. This study highlighted a number of contributions made by the school libraries toward effective basic education in jigawa state, such as user education, cataloguing and classification, library week, exhibition or display, reader's advisory services etc. In view of the above summary, there is need for modern facilities to be provided in our school libraries to enhance the efforts made by the librarians in the task of promoting basic education in jigawa state.

Keywords--School Libraries, Information Services, Basic Education, User Education.

I BACKGROUND

Educational excellence cannot be attained without standard school library service provision, even if there is a public library nearby; which produces the children with background of reading habit in the society. Education is the power, and indispensable tool for the advancement of humanity and society. But for school libraries to be effectively utilized there is the need for information literacy among the children, which would enable them with reading culture in their areas of studies. Throughout the school day, teachers and students use library materials in the teaching and learning process. It is a common saying that children are the leaders of tomorrow. This is because children are the foundation and hope of the future generation and they ensure the survival and continuity of the human species on earth. The school libraries provide information and ideas that are fundamental to functioning successful leaven in today's information and knowledge-based society.

Edoka (2000: 3p) defined the school library as, "library in primary and secondary schools established to support the academic activities, so as to achieve the desired aims and objectives of the schools community".

¹DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES, JIGAWA STATE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, PMB 1002, GUMEL, gamboyarwa@gmail.com, 08036228255

II THE BASIC EDUCATION

As a backbone of all educational existence, Basic education encompasses program of instruction which is intended to provide students with the opportunity to become responsible and respectful global citizens, to contribute to their economic well-being and that of their families and communities, also to explore and understand different perspectives in their lives.

Objectives of Basic Education (UBEC: 2004):

- ❖ Ensure unfettered access to nine (9) years of formal basic education.
- ❖ The provision of free, Basic Education for every Nigerian child of school- going age.
- ❖ Reducing drastically the incidence of drop-out from the formal school system through improved relevance, quality and efficiency and Ensuring the acquisition of appropriate levels of literacy.

III THE ROLE OF SCHOOL LIBRARIES

Udoh (2008) identified the role of school library in laying with the foundation for children's interest in reading habit and given them confident in research and other related information seeking behavior. Educational excellence in any environment cannot be attained without a good school library and it provides more of what educational standard needs. Busayo (2011) has summarized that proximity of the school library to the children in primary and secondary schools respectively, enhances the extent to which children's use of the library resources by the sheer volume of available library resources that they should grow to the full structure of humans; sound minds and bodies.

Library user education: Education is a long life process, there is no end. As far as library activities are concerns, the users are illiterates. They need some sought of guidance or an orientations on how to use library resources and services, it is a notable method in which the school librarians uses to promote their clients literacy. User education is very necessary if the users have to be encouraged to make use of the library for their learning and to update their knowledge.

Cataloguing and Classification: This could be described as a device in which libraries or the librarians use to make information organized for easy retrieval. Ahiauzu (1992), pointed out that, if the library is not properly organized and the information disseminated in an un-organized manner, it becomes a junk house for books. The librarian had also used cataloguing and classification of library materials to promote information literacy, and this is done by ensuring that information materials are catalogued and classified based on guided and well established principles and rules.

Library Week: A library week, as the name implies, is a week set by the library during which books and other information resources are displayed. Resource persons are also invited to give talks; the activities of the week are

carefully organized in such a way that it stimulates users interest to enhance the rate and efficient of library use, and hence promote the user's educational stands.

Exhibition or Display: Display of books is also a known method whereby, the school libraries use to promote the educational literacy to our children and the librarians does such by occasionally organizing exhibition and display of information materials to create awareness of book and the search for information materials.

Reader's Advisory Services: This is an important method in which librarians serve as customer care officers. RAS, service which involves suggesting fiction and nonfiction titles to a reader through direct or indirect means. This service is a fundamental library service; however, readers' advisory also occurs in commercial contexts such as bookstores. In this method library manager or librarians give advices to the library users on the choice of materials from library collections that will meet their needs.

IV CONCLUSION

Most of our primary and secondary schools in jigawa state lacked standard libraries to support their day to day learning process. Library operating in primary, junior or senior secondary schools need to be engaged in collection of books other learning materials organized by trained professional and placed in one or two big rooms in the school for the use of the pupils and teacher. The school libraries and teacher librarians demanded special attention from the government and other related bodies to create effective information service provision in our school libraries around the state.

V RECOMMENDATIONS

In view of what have been stated in the paper, the following recommendations are worth noting:

- ❖ In order to promote sound basic education in jigawa state, there's need for adequate financial support to our primary and secondary schools, which would enable them; to establish an effective school library services, so as to reach their educational aims and objective, and also to transform their students reading ability, to the level that can be compete with their peer group all over the nation.
- ❖ The fact still remains that a lot still need to be done to advance the guidance on how to use library among the children in which our pupils would grow up with knowledge.
- ❖ Provision of information and communication technology (ICT) facilities should also be made necessary for the school libraries to execute their daily inquiries.
- ❖ Library period need to be in the school curriculum, each class has to be given a time for library daily visit.

REFERENCES

1. Ahiauzu, B. (1992). *A Cataloguing Manual for Libraries*. Port Harcourt; Pam Unique.
2. Busayo, I. (2011). The school library as a foundational step to children's effective reading habits. *Library, philosophy and practice*.
3. Edoaka, B.E. (2000) *Introduction to Library Science*. Palma and Links Company, Onitsha. 3p.
4. IFLA (2008, 7p), *School Library Manifesto*.<http://www.ifla.org>
5. Ravi K. (2006). User Education in libraries: library and information science.
6. Reitz, Joan (2004). "*Bibliographic instruction (BI)*". *Dictionary for Library and Information Science*. Westport, Connecticut: Libraries Unlimited. P.71. ISBN:1-56308-075-7|1-56308-075-7
7. Udoh (2008). The significant of school libraries in the educational development of student. The case of Novena University Staff School, Kwale, Delta State, Nigeria. *Library Philosophy and practice*, ISSN1522-0222.
8. Dev Kant Shandilya, Peter Edward Joseph, Venkata Siva Satyanarayana Kantamreddi. "Interpretation of Full Scan Atmospheric Pressure Ionization Mass Spectra (MS) and Collision Induced Dissociation Fragmentation Spectra (MS/MS) of Small Organic Molecules – A Mini Review." *Systematic Reviews in Pharmacy* 8.1 (2017), 48-51. Print. doi:10.5530/srp.2017.1.9
9. Başar, E., Düzgün, A., Güntekin, B.A proposal to extend brodmann's areas concept to a new model (2014) *NeuroQuantology*, 12 (2), pp. 201-209.
10. Caswell, J.M., Dotta, B.T., Persinger, M.A. Cerebral biophoton emission as a potential factor in non-local human-machine interaction (2014) *NeuroQuantology*, 12 (1), pp. 1-11.