



Enhancing learning student capabilities through study tours – new approaches

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Abstract: Traveling always is helpful to students because traveling helps their learning Ancient Indian education system always believed in making learning joyful through traveling. These days classrooms teaching has become more academic & students do not get opportunities to travel. Students are confined to classrooms. The subjects which are to be taught externally are inside the classrooms are always which is a dangerous .The learning experiences of students become dull & even the teachers become sober because some subjects need to be taught with practice & field work This paper analyses the advantage of traveling & considers programs which can make students learn things practically .

Key words: traveling, students' aptitudes, enhancing learning capabilities,

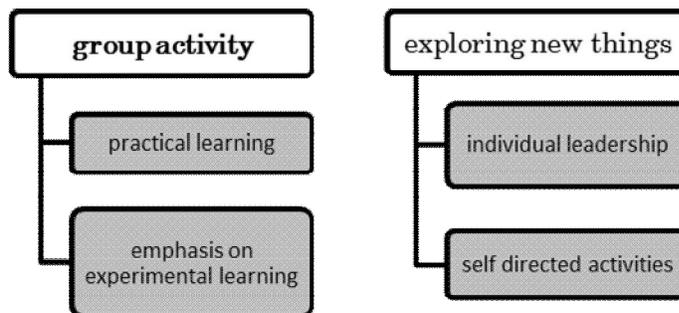
Introduction: travelling is a beneficial learning activity cum recreational activity. It provides hands on experience knowing new culture, knowing new experience , spending time with family , friends , learning more about curriculum, students can learn more about their text based lessons through traveling This travelling would be visiting a local bank , archeology office , museum , post office , blind school Industry, factory etc

Study tour concept- A study tour is a travel experience with specific learning

goals. The learning goals of each study tour vary, but are always spelled out in the course syllabus that is distributed to each learner. Study tours emphasize experiential learning and offer both group and self-directed activities that enable learners to explore new territories, cultures, and people.

Diagram -1 shows the influence of study tour towards group activity , practical learning , experimental learning , exploring new things , individual leadership & self-directed activities

Diagram -1





A study tour planning- Study tour needs a good quality planning such as budgeting , funding , participants number , faculty involved , mode of transport ,place of visit etc. It should indicate

1. number of student participants ,
2. places of visit ,
3. faculty support ,
4. Budget needed
5. places of night stay
6. places of boarding
7. Funding through college
8. whether self-financing
9. share of each participant

There should be planning to the core as study tours often end up in fatal calamities. There are cases of drowning, falling, slipping, losing luggage s, missing trains, bus accidents, etc. attached to study tours. Instead of a recreational trip study tour becomes a night mare example.

Places of study tour destination – the destination of study tour can be a local office or a far off landscape.

1. Mountains / waterfalls / hills / aqueducts / river beds /
2. Historical places which provide historical information such as temples , ancient buildings , architectural constructions / archeological sites /
3. Bio diversity places such as parks / wildlife sanctuaries / zoo /bird habitats
4. Farm lands, coffee / tea estates / organic farming plots / farmhouses /

5. Industrial outlets / factories / Milk dairy / coir factory / brick factory / small scale industry
6. Planetarium / museum /
7. An outing to a farm estate helps the individual to learn the goodness of nature besides he can understand the infinite farm secrets.
8. Industrial tours are very popular in western countries as it helps students to get an exposure to the ongoing developments in industrial endeavor that have become benchmarks for the world.

Instances of learning through study tours:

1. a visit to Pondicherry can arouse interest of knowing the influence of French in Pondicherry how it has influence d local culture , local food , local habits & local dressing
2. A visit to a metro city , noise pollution , vehicular traffic , etc would stimulate the student to opt for a cycle riding back home.
3. a visit to a river delta can make the students how the river basin is polluted
4. a visit to a historical place can make the students learn about ancient methods of structures , building materials , style of building, & architectural designs & would make him influenced to protect & conserve a monument for posterity .
5. A visit to a zoological park incites interest in flora & fauna , categories of plant life.
6. A visit to a farm land can insure the facts about organic farming

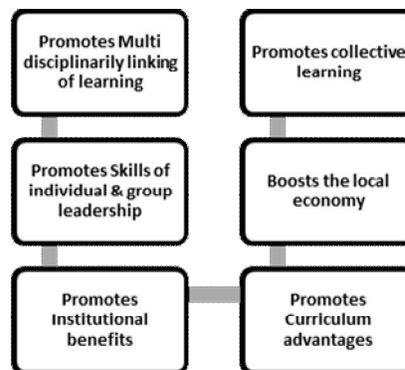


Benefits of study tour – Study tour should induce the student learning capabilities such as

1. **Multi disciplinarily linking of learning**- He should be given task of writing a report of the tour. These sounds as a simple home work but to write a report of the visit will enable the student to link what he saw & what he experienced practically. This will give him an opportunity to remember, link & disseminate information. This arouses his memory lanes & he attempts to link facts. He can be given a project relating to the tour destination such as environmental pollution , deforestation , river delta , Instead of teaching environmental studies inside the classroom there should be a chance for the student to know how environment is polluted through industrial waste , vehicular traffic , carbon emission , endless exploitation of natural resources etc
2. Technological substitutes such as video filming, mobile filming, and camera shot photographs, and readily available photos etc should be avoided. Student should make drawing by hand & through his memory. This will make him remember what he saw. This will be ever green & enduring in his memory. A project can involve attractive visuals, sketches, charts, landscapes, portraits, illustrations etc.
3. **Part of collective learning** - A study tour should become part of collective learning. A study tour can be made through groups of 4-6 students or according to the strength, & can be persuaded to make a project collectively through a groups this will enhance the collective learning capacity & students will learn by du group discussion, methodology, This benefits **consolidation of facts** about the place visited & this will enable them to recollect & this freshens their memory. Bringing the highlights, observations , individual investigations will add to their practical enhancement of knowledge
4. **Reflective discussion session** - A teacher can assess, evaluate, & reward these observations or conduct reflective discussion session in the classrooms. This will help other student who has not participated in the tour, to make their mind never to miss the next trip.
5. **Skills of individual & group leadership** -A study tour invokes the skills of individual & group leadership, friendship making, & individual confidence building. By undergoing the process of walking , swimming, para sailing , para jumping , trekking , running , alighting the steps , falling, etc he will learn to come out of his solitude , inertness , & inferiority complex. Through missing with his friends he will talk , share , stimulate & inspire himself & his friends
6. **Boosts the local economy** - A study tour can boost the local economy as well as students would prefer shopping on spot. A bamboo basket, a leather key chain, a teddy bear toy, a hand embroidered purse, a chicken work valet, a lacquered bangle can increasing shopping attractions. Student would like to exchange gifts of thee type's .Hence a local economy will be supported through these study tours. Even students gain access to marketing, types of marketing, testing goods, money transacting, purchase tactics etc.



7. **Institutional benefits-** A study tour can benefit the institution as well. Tour participant can make a project & make it as a wall magazine, paste these memories on a college notice board. The college faculty & other disciplines will notice the work .Other students will also become aware of the significance of the tour or stimulated to organize tours linking their subjects.
8. These days student tour package, student tour operator services etc are on the increase. This has transformed the concept of educational trips in to an exotic tour experience. With special offers for the youth and teenagers in every tour with Laser, fog, and high class sound supported luxury coaches, well arranged night camping site with fire & music for maximum level of entertainment.
9. **Curriculum advantages** - Some colleges & HEIs offer international student exchange programs. Instead of MBA study tours , Business study tours , journalism study tours ,environment study tours , IT studies study tours , culinary study tours , study tours should be inter disciplinary . As shown in Daigram-2



Analysis: As shown in diagram -2 study tours have Multi disciplinarily support to linking of learning with individual & group leadership. It has also benefits to Institutional progression. The academic benefits also include Curriculum redesigning advantages.

Conclusion: Study tour as the very objective of teaching is to awaken intelligence & learning capabilities, tours can be of great value. Classrooms only make attentive state of mind, a rule, but students learn more through practical experience. Educational trips that form a part of the school

curriculum are very valuable as they provide the students the opportunity of learning through travel, especially to places that they may not otherwise get to visit. Apart from this, the trips also provide relief from the drudgery that academic study sometimes becomes, an opportunity for close interaction with peers that students enjoy so much, and a chance for the teacher to observe and interact with the student in a structure different from and more informal than the classroom.



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