

Home Science as a Keystone for Transdisciplinary Learning in Middle School Education

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Abstract:

This paper considers, reviews and highlights the role of home science as a mandatory middle school subject in fostering transdisciplinary learning for students in grades 6–8 in CBSE Schools. Analysing the NCERT curriculum framework with theoretical studies, and empirical analyses, the review examines how the subject of home science integrates knowledge and skills across subject domains of science, mathematics, social studies, languages, and arts to promote holistic development of students. Previous studies reviewed under literature review emphasize that the subject of home science not only promotes theoretical and practical learning but also provides opportunities to nurture soft skills, life skills, and emotional intelligence essential for survival in the 21st-century. This paper thus recommends the subject of home science be considered as a mandatory school subject within the context of India's evolving educational reforms and explores its potential as a model for integrated, transdisciplinary, experiential, and equitable learning. Implications for overall curriculum development, teacher training and education are discussed. Highlighting the need to reposition home science as a core transdisciplinary subject in middle school education.

Keywords:

Home Science, transdisciplinary learning, curriculum integration, life skills, transdisciplinary learning, 21st-century skills.