The Use of Wordless Picture Books to Encourage Reading for Pleasure amongst Reluctant Readers

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Abstract- Reluctant reader is considered as those children or students who are quite and didn't show any level of interest in reading. They generally actively refuse reading and they show their dislike through clowning around or showing misbehaving when ask for reading. There is various reason which lead to reluctance among the child such as they are not interested in reading, they are more interested in other things like music, music and others and many more. This situation may generally develop struggling among the emotional components in order to avoid reading and this may lead to major issues like anxiety, low self-esteem and so on. So, there are several ways or practices which can be adopted by family or teacher or other person in order to deal with reluctance reader. From which one of the main practices is to use wordless picture book, in this book there are more pictures delivering information and it have no or less words in it. By adopting this reluctance reader get attracted toward the book because it includes numbers of pictures which attract them as well as it will encourage reader to read book. Along with this there are also several other methods which can be used for motivating as well as encouraging reluctance reader toward reading like try to identify reason due to which they become reluctance. For this individual can also use graphic techniques so that reluctance reader gets attract to reading or learning as well as it will also enhance their understanding and capturing skills which directly or indirectly lead to improvement in confidence. Moreover, it is also essential for peoples to treat these children in effective and proper manager so that they can cope up with other in proper way.

Indexed Terms- Reluctant reader, Wordless picture book, challenges

I. INTRODUCTION

The picture books are instrumental for the enhancement of the motivation levels of the readers. The Ministry of Education in collaboration with the stakeholders in the educational system need to enforce a policy that requires for the schools to promote reading for pleasure among the reluctant individuals. Learning institutions need to be made aware about the essence of picture books for cognitive development of the learners (Waedaoh & Sinwongsuwat 2018, p.138). In both the advanced and emerging nations, the curriculum developers have to ensure that wordless picture books are part of the course books in both the junior and senior levels learning systems. This report will include information about the usage of wordless picture books in order to encourage reading pleasure among the reluctant readers. For which researcher is gathering information from secondary sources as well as in last they also provide recommendation which will be based on research outcome.

II. THE RESEARCH PROBLEM

In any literacy and learning program, reading is considered to as an essential tool to success. Some individuals read to boost their knowledge in various topics while others do that for pleasure. Despite the numerous benefits of reading, the upward trend of reluctant readers continues to be witnessed in various parts of the world. The lack of motivation contributes to the reluctance in reading. Louie and Sierschynski (2015, p.103) state that the use of wordless picture books is an instrumental step for the encouragement. According to Louie and Sierschynski (2015, p.103), wordless books are literary genre that provide a series of illustrations, concepts, and information without using texts. In the past four decades, wordless books have seen their popularity rise significantly, and it is attributed to their effectiveness in the educational system.

III. PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

The purpose of this study is to analyse the impacts of wordless picture books on reluctant readers. The research paper will try to identify how they can encourage reading for pleasure among the reluctant persons.

IV. BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Over the past four decades, wordless picture books have become a distinct genre within the literature for children around the world. With the emphasis of cognitive learning, some of the educational systems are keen on ensuring that learners have a broader understanding of content, and it is made possible through the use of picture books. Yu (2012, p.293) stipulates that picture books provide learners with a better understanding of content and concepts and eliminates boredom. Some of the readers are discouraged from reading text books because of lack of concentration. For the wordless picture books, individuals tend to have a higher concentration, and in return, it has a positive impact on their ability to gain knowledge from the books (Al Khaiyali 2014, p.130). Various factors influence reluctant readers and these include lack of motivation, scarcity of knowledge, unavailability of a suitable environment for active reading, and the lack of proper materials.

V. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

Are wordless picture books effective tools for encouraging reading for pleasure amongst the reluctant readers?

VI. LITERATURE REVIEW

- Factors Contributing to Reluctancy in Reading

In the search for the development of approaches used for encouraging reading for pleasure, one ought to have an in-depth view of the factors that contribute to reluctant reading. Lack of motivation is one of the factors that have a major impact on the same. According to article given at K12 reader, 2008, reluctant readers are those individuals who didn't show interest in reading. It can be a child who required to be coaxed for the reading text or documents (Strategies to Help Engage Reluctant Readers in Reading, 2018). Along with this first factor which can be consider for contributing reluctant readers in reading is to identify them and then develop effective strategies so that they get encourage in reading. Some of the major strategies which may consider during in this situation are it is essential to identify root cause of the reluctance so that practices can be developed accordingly (Morgan, 2013). For reluctant readers it is necessary that they get specialised services because it will help them in getting motivated and encouraged for reading. Along with this, it is also essential to make or develop reading material more interesting so that reluctant reader get attracted toward the reading and for this it is essential create funny reading material. In addition to this in order to encourage reluctant reader it is necessary to provide choice to them that what they want to read. This will help them for motivating or encouraging for reading (Booker, 2012). Practitioner or teacher of reluctance reader can also conduct role play in order to attract students for reading or learning. By adopting all these factors there will be huge or some chance that reluctance reader gets ready or enjoy reading. Along with this by practising these factors it will also help respective reader to interact with others in public in effective manner. These practices can be adopted for factors due to which reluctancy develop among the children.

According to Al Khaiyali (2014, p.133), motivation in the process refers to the personal goals of an individual regarding to the process and outcomes of a given piece. An individual that lacks motivation will always be distracted easily when reading a book. Lubis (2018, p.49) argues that learners can be encouraged to engage in the practice by ensuring that they have access to content that fascinates them. The wordless picture books have content that may improve the reading motivation for the reluctant readers. Another factor that contributes to reluctance in reading among readers is past failures in reading or the scarcity in background knowledge. According to Lubis (2018, p.50), readers that have experienced failures when reading l in the past ack the interest or passion to continue reading. Additionally, learners that have minimal background knowledge when it comes to various topics tend to be reluctant readers. Lubis (2018, p.50) states that individuals with higher background knowledge in reading have a higher interest in various topics.

A student's surrounding environment affects his or her cognitive development. Al Khaiyali (2014, p.134) argues that the lack of an active and sustainable reading environment is directly correlated with reluctancy in reading. A home or school environment that encourages active reading, on the other hand, will always have a positive impact on the reading goals for individuals. The lack of proper reading materials goes handy with the inactive reading environment. Learners that hardly have access to suitable reading materials occasionally have low motivation (Alsamadani 2017, p.208).

- Wordless Picture Books and Impacts on Reluctant Readers

Wordless picture books, according to Alsamadani (2017, p.209), refer to books that lack texts but use pictures for illustration and the provision of information to the readers. Sembiring and Sinulingga (2016) define wordless picture books as books that provide information or share a story through different illustrations but without utilising any word texts. Terrusi (2018, p.883) claims that picture books are interesting and authentic, and they improve the engagement and concentration levels for the readers. Most individuals prefer the wordless picture books to the traditional textual books because of their simplicity but effectiveness in the showcasing of visual arts. Picture books evoke images that are a reflection of reality (Hernández, Montelongo, & Herter 2016, p.235). Unlike the text books, picture books require for a reader to look at the images and try to understand their meanings. Reading for pleasure around the world is slowly losing popularity because of the social media era. Most people, especially the youth, spend most of their time surfing the Internet and not reading. Some individuals lack the motivation to read books that are purely text due to distraction or a decline in passion as they continue reading (Sembiring and Sinulingga 2016).

The wordless picture books can effectively encourage reading for pleasure among the reluctant readers in various ways. Firstly, the said tools display multiple levels of meaning in a unique way and structure, and in return, it improves the ability for the person to comprehend content and information (Serafini 2014, p.25). Serafini (2014, p.25) posits that the wordless picture books have a way of engaging with the readers, thus improving their concentration levels. Unlike the traditional textual books where a person has to read several pages of textual information, for the wordless picture books, all that a reader has to do is to look at an image and try to interpret it. The picture books have hierarchical relationship with the images, and it ensures that once a reader starts going through the book, he or she may concentrate from the first to the last page (McGillicuddy 2019, p.113). Based on the above information, one can easily tell that wordless picture books can effectively encourage reluctant readers to do so for pleasure.

Kochiyama (2017, p.12) argues that wordless picture books can be used for the enhancement of motivation among the readers. Doling so for pleasure has lost meaning in most parts around the world. In Australia, for instance, estimated 56% of the youth spend most of their time on social media and not pleasure reading. Kochiyama (2017, p.13) states that lack of motivation in reading is one of the factors that have led to a significant decline in pleasure reading in the nation in the past decade. Wordless picture books eliminate the language barriers and any other challenges that individuals face when reading textual books. Picture books use images that may portray the pollical situation in a country, social vices, and emerging events. When a person reads a picture book, he or she may relate some of the images with the happenings in the society. In the process, it motivates the individual to continue reading. The illustrations and interesting topics in the wordless picture books make them valuable resources in the initiation of love for reading for pleasure among the reluctant readers. Gibbons (2017) states that introduction of picture book in a learning environment provides a platform for the reluctant readers to change their attitude towards the practice. The high inference levels of the wordless picture books make them effective for the enhancement of the motivation levels for the readers.

Picture books are easy to read. Lysaker and Hopper (2015, p.650) state that compared to the textual books, whereby one spends a lot of time reading from one page to the other, for the wordless picture books, a person needs to look at two or three images for interpretation. The visual interpretation of the images makes them interesting and may encourage the reluctant readers to improve their reading. According

to Lysaker and Hopper (2015, p.653), a reader can take the shortest time possible to comprehend information in a wordless picture book compared to the textual alternative. Lysaker and Hopper's (2015, p.653) arguments paint a picture of the efficiency of the wordless picture books in the motivation of the individuals. Particularly for the reluctant readers that engage in the practice for pleasure, picture books have unique features that not only increases their concentration, but also strengthens their reading passion (Haese, Costandius, & Oostendorp 2018, p.589).

As per the view point of Maria Minsker, 2019, for children picture book is priceless because it describes about many things, so it is essential to make picture books having less or no words as a part of home and school library (How Wordless Picture Books Help Kids Read, 2019). This will also encourage reluctance reader to interact with other in order to understand the things in effective manner as well as it will also attract them for reading.

• The three reason of making wordless picture book
There are major three reason of making wordless picture book as a part of reluctance reader life i.e. it them in improving visual thinking which enhance their confidence which encourage them to interact with others (Pinsent, 2013). This will also help respective readers to incorporate context clues because it will leave huge imagination among the students. Along with this it will also help them in welcoming retelling by understanding things or stories. Moreover, according to the article given on Children's Books and reading, 2015, there are also various positive impact of wordless picture books on the reluctance readers such as it encourages reluctance reader for discussion from others (Childrens books and reading, 2015). As well as it will also encourage reluctance reader to conduct creative writing and interacting with others in successful manner. In addition to this wordless picture book also attract reluctance readers and for them it is also easy to remember story or things for a long-time duration (Cremin, 2014). This will also help respective readers to develop or enhance their confidence level by understanding things effectively as well as successfully.

VII. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The methodology section focuses on the techniques used for the collection of data. Most of the developed and developing countries are faced with the challenges of reluctant readers. In this research, only the secondary data collection methods were used (Schindler and Cooper, 2019, pp.34). The reason for ruling out primary collection methods is because of the difficulties that would come along with trying to get participants from the developed and developing countries. Additionally, it would have been expensive for the researcher to travel to the developed and developing countries to gather information on reluctant readers.

Various factors led to the selection of the secondary data collection method for this research paper. Firstly, it was easy for the researcher to access books, journals, or government documents and many other sources. It helps researcher in consider different author perspective on a particular topic. Secondly, the internet has articles and statistical data on reluctant readers in the developed and developing countries. According to respective researcher adopted secondary method for gather data or information about the use of wordless picture books to encourage reading for pleasure amongst reluctant readers. It is so because through this method they able to collect data through existing documents or articles or books.

VIII. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

By conducting evaluation and analysis of above-mentioned points and literature review it can be determined that for encouraging reading among the reluctance reader an individual can adopt wordless picture book because it is most effective method as well as it will also motive readers. Explanation of more outcome of discussed literature review are mentioned below

• Factors Contributing to Reluctancy in Reading
Through analysis it can be determine that reluctance reader refers to those children who didn't like to do study. These children's generally need coaxed so that they develop reading habit. There are various reasons which leads to reluctance situations among the

children such as they are not interest in study, they like some other things such as music, sports and so on (Lysaker, Shaw & Alicea, 2016). Along with this the reason behind respective situation is lack of motivation level among the students which will distract them from reading. Next factors which contribute to leading of reluctance situation among the child is their past experience while reading which scare them from leading as well as they may also get failure while reading according to their interest or passion. Moreover, reluctance reader also arises when reader had very minimum or no knowledgeable about the topic, he/ she get for reading. There are also many other reasons or factors which lead to reluctancy in reading such as background of family, high expectation of other and many more (Morgan, 2013). So, in order to avoid this situation, there are several practices which a person or teacher or family members can adopt while dealing with reluctance readers. For example, they may use wordless picture books or graphical representation in order to attract reluctance readers towards the reading. In addition to this an individual also need to understand reason behind the development of reluctance readers because it will help them in handling situation in effective as well as successful manner. By adopting this they may also develop or improve confidence among the reluctance readers as well as it also supports them in interacting others effectively.

- Wordless Picture Books and Impacts on Reluctant Readers

Wordless picture book defines as book or document which include more pictures or digram and it will include less or no words (Booker, 2012). This is considered as more interesting as well as authenticate source which help in enhancing engagement of readers. Various peoples consider wordless picture books as a traditional textual document because of its simplicity and way of representing visual arts in front of others. It is seeming that reading for gaining pleasure are decreasing day by day around the world because of the social media and internet usage. Moreover, in today's time children, youth and other peoples are spending their time on internet instead of reading which making then reluctance reader directly or indirectly (Pinsent, 2013). Therefore, in this situation wordless picture books play an essential role because it highly encourages children or reluctance

reader for reading through various mode. Along with this, it will also develop understanding skills because a picture can be depicting in several ways which help reluctance reader in enhancing their creativity level. This is also possible because picture books develop hierarchical relation with readers which lead to assurance that if a reader will start the book, they will go to the end in order to know whole story. In addition to this wordless picture book also helpful for reluctance reader in various ways such as it makes reader creative as well as it will also encourage reader to write things in most effective manner (Cremin, 2014). Through this reluctance reader also get confidence which help them in conducting interaction with others in successful manner as well as it also aids them in understanding as well as remembering things in effectively for long duration of time. This will show that wordless picture book will help reluctance readers in appropriate way.

IX. RECOMMENDATION

By evaluating above discussed point, there are some recommendation which can be provided to propels who are dealing with reluctance readers, from which some of the recommendation's points are given below

- Use pictures books: Teachers or other peoples at school or home may adopt those books which have more pictures and no or less words. This is so because it will attract reluctance readers toward the readings.
- Adopt graphics method: Along with this they may also use more graphics which help in attract reluctance readers and encouraging them for reading. This will also aid them in remembering things for long time duration.
- Encourage writing: It is also one of the effective methods which help in encouraging reading among the reluctance as well as it will also help them in developing creative thinking.

These are some main recommendation which may adopted by persons who are dealing with reluctance readers in order to attract them for reading and interacting with others.

CONCLUSION

Reading for pleasure in various parts around the world is slowly being replaced with social media. Currently, most people globally spend majority of their time online compared to reading for pleasure. Different factors contribute to reluctant reading, and they include the lack of motivation, inactive reading environment both at home and at school, minimal reading background and interest in certain topics as well as the lack of adequate resources. The wordless picture books are an ideal tool that can be used for encouraging reluctant readers to engage in the practice more. The books have visual arts and images that are easy to comprehend compared to the textual books. The high inference levels and a series of images with a reflection of reality or happenings in the society make the wordless picture books interesting. Introduction of the wordless picture books is thus an ideal step for encouraging reluctant readers to read for pleasure.

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