

# THE ROLE OF A TEACHER IN ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

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## **Abstract**

*Humans have had access to an abundance of resources from nature to meet their requirements. The needs of people are only going to expand as the human population does. Due to technological improvements, people are now using natural resources on a far wider scale. People do not take environmental conservation seriously. The necessity of teachers in this regard stems from the fact that those who carry out this duty must have training. Making educated, socially conscious citizens—especially the younger generation—who understand other people's expectations of them, the environment, and their fellow citizens is one of the main goals of training. It is the responsibility of educators to determine the best approaches and strategies for teaching and getting pupils ready for environmental education that is sustainable.*

## **INTRODUCTION**

Everything surrounding us is our environment. Living or non-living objects may be included. Physical, chemical, and other natural forces are included. Environment is home to all living things. They engage with it continuously and adjust to the circumstances in their surroundings. The introduction of pollutants that have a negative impact on the ecosystem is known as pollution. Any material (solid, liquid, or gas) or energy (radiation, heat, sound, or light) can be considered a form of pollution. The elements that make up pollution, or pollutants, can be either naturally occurring or the result of outside materials or energy.

The entirety of all components, both living and non-living, and the ways in which they affect human life are collectively referred to as the environment. Water, land, sunlight, rocks, and air are examples of non-living or abiotic components. All live or biotic elements include animals, plants, forests, fisheries, and birds. One of the most important issues the world is currently dealing with is environmental pollution. The degradation of air, water, and soil quality is caused by the introduction of harmful contaminants into the ecosystem. With the advancement of human civilization, we created devices and goods that make life easier.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION**

Environmental pollution occurs when there is an undesired alternation in the environment that has adverse consequence on plants and animals. The surroundings of a physical system that may interact with other system by transferring mass and energy are referred to as the environment. Examples of environmental pollution include global warming, greenhouse gas emissions, and ozone depletion. These water basins inadvertently poison the biodiversity of the sea since they eventually connect to it. Moreover, their effects can be lethal for coming generations. There are seven different categories of environmental pollution: air, water, soil, thermal, radioactive, noise, and light pollution.

### **In what sense is conservation practiced?**

The defense, maintenance, conservation, or rehabilitation of natural areas and the biological groups that live there. The management of human use of natural resources for present public benefit and sustained social and economic utilization is usually accepted to be included in conservation.

A natural resource is conserved when it is carefully maintained and tended to in order to preserve it from going extinct. The tangible form of everything found in nature, such as soil, water, air, plants, animals, and energy, is referred to as a natural resource. The Natural Resources Conservation Service understands that we need to work to preserve and safeguard natural resources because we don't want them to become less or vanish completely.

In agriculture, conservation aims to preserve or enhance the land with an eye toward the future that is long-term and sustainable. The Natural Resources Conservation Service's mission is to assist you in managing and caring for your agricultural and forestland's soil, water, air, plants, animals, and energy. We can offer you a range of

tools to help you understand the options you have to conserve natural resources on your land, together with technical and financial support. We collaborate with you to nurture healthy ecosystems and productive areas.

### **Teachers' Obligations and Accountabilities in Environmental Discussion**

Teachers play a vital and diverse role in influencing students' attitudes and behaviors regarding the environment by cultivating environmental awareness. With the growing awareness of environmental issues in today's society, educators are essential in fostering a sense of accountability, sustainability, and ecological consciousness in students. There are several categories into which teachers' obligations and responsibilities regarding environmental awareness can be divided:

#### **Growing Concern about Environmental Issues**

It is the responsibility of educators to educate their students on critical environmental issues like pollution, deforestation, climate change, and biodiversity loss. By means of classroom discussions, videos, and pertinent readings, educators can furnish pupils with a thorough comprehension of the environmental concerns that confront the world. Teachers can effectively communicate the urgency and significance of environmental conservation by placing these challenges in a framework that is relatable to the lives of their pupils.

#### **Encouragement of Sustainable Behaviours:**

In the educational setting, teachers are essential in setting an example and supporting sustainable practices. This entails putting recycling programs into place, cutting back on energy use, and limiting trash. Teachers show how sustainable practices are used in real-world situations by actively supporting and engaging in eco-friendly efforts. Students gain an understanding of the significance of their personal actions in promoting a healthier planet through this practical experience.

#### **Field trips and outdoor education:**

Students can establish direct connections with nature through the facilitation of outdoor education experiences and field trips to natural environments. Instructors can plan field trips to parks, natural reserves, or environmental centres where students can see flora, animals, and ecosystems. These encounters create a strong appreciation for the environment and a sense of obligation to protect it.

#### **Promoting Environmental Prudence:**

It is the duty of educators to cultivate in their pupils a feeling of environmental stewardship. This entails cultivating an attitude that acknowledges the Earth as a valuable resource in need of prudent care. Teachers have the ability to empower children to become environmental stewards by promoting sustainable habits and the preservation of natural resources through conversations, projects, and hands-on activities.

#### **Steps towards Sustainable Development**

- Adopt environmentally friendly technologies (non-polluting) in large scale in the production process. For instance, crop rotation, mixed cropping, bio-fertilizers and manures.
- Adopt recycling and reusing technologies to treat waste minerals.
- Better sanitation, availability of clean water, education, family planning, agricultural extension and research should be ensured.
- Effective environmental management can be achieved by monitoring climate change, biodiversity and the disposal of hazardous toxic industrial wastes.
- Environmental education should be provided to school and college students and the public in order to increase the sustainability of nature.
- Give people access to means of production and security to invest in long term improvements.
- Grow more green grassy patches interspersed between concrete buildings (hotels, lodges, industries etc.)
- Judicious and effective use of natural resources.
- Non-renewable resources (oil, natural gas and minerals) cannot be restored after their exploitation. Hence, people should be encouraged to use renewable resources of energy.
- Preserve the productive natural systems that support mankind.
- Protect natural vegetation, resources, biodiversity, forests and other ecological niches and make the world a beautiful place to live in.
- Provide jobs, houses and other basic facilities that encourage people to live in rural areas and discourage urbanisation.
- Renewable resources must be replenished after their exploitation. For instance, after cutting trees in forests new plants should be grown in the same place so as to maintain ecological balance.

## CONCLUSION

A subject which has to be brought to light because of the continuous harming of our environment. Most of the electronics, appliances etc that we use are causing some type of pollution to our environment in some way. Since we are the one benefitting from the environment we also have the responsibility to save it. There are multiple types of pollution with each having its own problem and solution. Some examples of this is the global warming, unexpected seasonal changes, overpopulation of big cities, the air pollution caused by the factories and electronics and the large use of non-renewable resources.

The teacher can start teaching the students about the importance of environment conservation which will make the children value our environment and save our environment by taking the precautions and finding new ways to help the environment grow. The teacher can teach the students about how to conserve rain water which can be used for multiple purposes, about how the forests are the most important for our survival, how fossil fuels once exhausted will not be available for many centuries, how the use of renewable resources is important and others which help in the conserving of our environment.

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