

Internal Seminar

Conceptualizing Science Education Based on Children's Questioning in Science

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Curiosity and questioning are qualities natural to children and intrinsic to the nature of childhood. Questioning is one of the ways in which curiosity is expressed, and it emerges from children's innate curiosity to make sense of the world around them. Children wonder and ask questions about various entities, phenomena and processes they encounter in their everyday, social and natural world. These questions asked by children have a cognitive, pedagogic, and science educational potential. Science begins from wonderment and is essentially a question-driven and open-ended process. Asking the right question and pursuing it in a persistent manner is fundamental to scientific creativity and research.

The talk explores the significance of children's questions in the teaching and learning of science in schools. It proposes a conceptual framework and method to study the content, nature and kind of questions asked by children collected in a digital repository from multiple contexts and language backgrounds from different States of India. The larger aim is to conceptualize a science education that give primacy to children's questioning and guide them to meaningful learning, and a program of research to design and implement innovative science curriculum, resources and pedagogic strategies to foster curiosity and questioning among Indian school children.

Friday, Nov 2nd 2018

4:00 PM (Tea/Coffee at 3:30 PM)

Seminar Hall, TIFR-H