

## **Contribution of Public Librarians for Empowering Research in Public libraries of the Chennai region through library programs for Social advancement.**

**Sridevi Baska, C. Baskaran**

### **Abstract**

*This article reveals about the young children's interest that paves the way for their learning which in turn also enhances their career path through their participation in library programs organized by public librarians in Public libraries. Lots of surveys had done on this topic around the world and analyzed information is suggested for further community development. In many communities, libraries play a different role in this digital era for maintaining their lively spaces where children attend a variety of programs and activities doing in the Public libraries of Chennai Region help children find trustworthy and reliable information, learn new things, and make important decisions through participation in many programs. These programs tell how public librarians supporting children's interests.*

**Keywords:** *Children library programs, Stories, Public libraries, Social advancement, social welfare, Cognitive development.*

### **Introduction**

This article says about the need and importance of conducting Library programs to help children become aware of to learn the different cultures of other people. Through conducting, programs in Public libraries must teach the children how a person behaves or the way that makes children acts in situations warranties and guarantees themselves to be called a good personality. By participating in these **programs children can develop their personalities for their enhancement of future careers.** Public Libraries must therefore provide the children with information and programs which will prepare them for **life-long learning.** Create an opportunity for fun with learning.

### **Need of library programs for young children and adults in public libraries**

Young Children covering all age groups starting from 4-15 years needs information/suggestion that in turn will sharpen their mind which leads to their career development. **Today children mostly are spending their time utmost in using the gadgets like smart mobile phones, playing videogames, watching t.v. et., They are not aware of time management and due to this lacking knowledge in them unable to decide their career path. In this connection, Public libraries in Chennai including Anna centenary library are conducting many valuable programs.**

Thus, Public librarians working in Public libraries that includes engulfing Branch libraries, Circle Libraries (utmost selecting nearly 10 libraries), and Annacentenary Library of Chennai region coming under the “Directorate of Public Libraries “Department of School Education” are doing these programs regularly. These programs are doing for the welfare of society.

### **Contribution of Public Librarians of Empowering Research and implementation of Brainstorming Session Programs:**

Studies of Public libraries doing the above-said programs show the research must go above theoretical

speculation to support the practical development of public libraries.

Public librarians advertise these programs through social media, internet by sending emails to coming users groups, and canvassing higher authorities by issuing notifications to nearby schools, Displaying program activities information in the library notice board, etc., in order to bring the utmost maximum coverage of user’s total up to 150 persons per program and in order to draw special attention to involve underprivileged children we are approaching Government schools includes elementary schools and in this way public librarians are providing their contribution for the social advancement of the society.

The following is the list of Program activities holding different themes / different topics of titles of all the subjects of prominent resource persons that embrace the wonderful brainstorming sessions, especially for the children. They are:

- **Storytelling** with pros and puppets; Puppet Shows involving Theatre shows; New Beginnings; Shadow Puppetry. Having Ventriloquist as the expert: Ventriloquism Storytelling program; narrate the stories and ask them to draw pictures.
- **For promoting art and craft activities:** Art from waste, Drawing and Handwriting, Leaf Nature and Drawing; Sand Art of teaching how to make statues using clay material.
- **Dance:** Panchatantra story: An interactive session in Bharathanatiam4.**Teaching Music** involving instruments like miruthangam, violin, keyboard, veena, using school teachers / famous experts who are all top in that field.

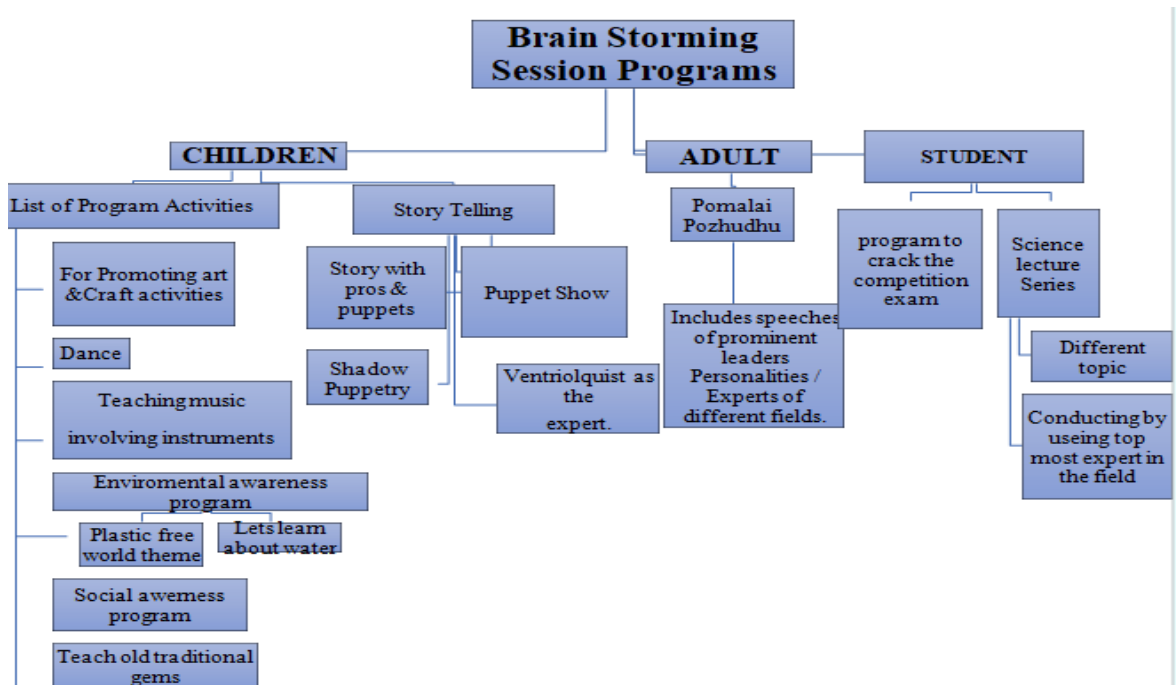
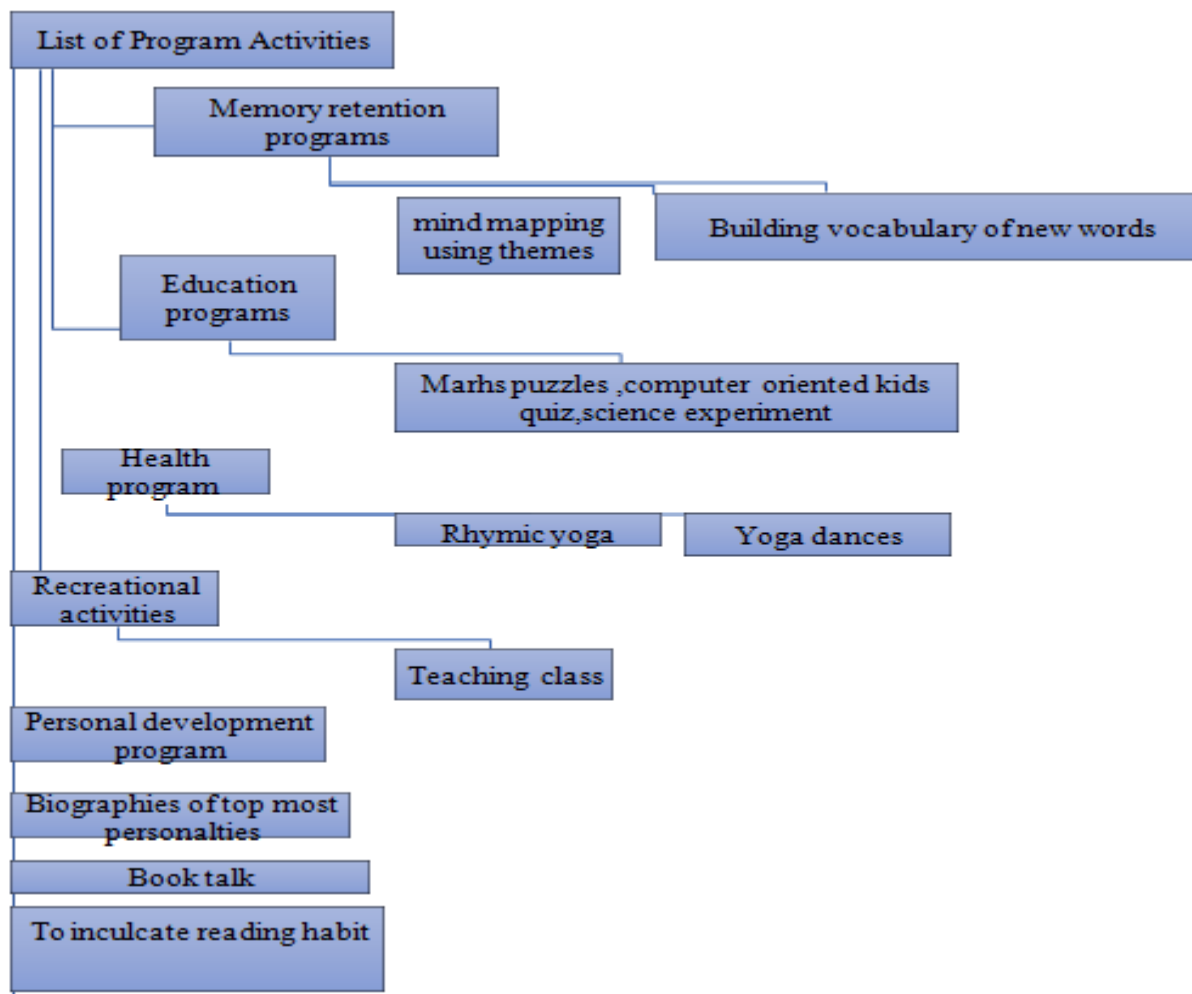


Fig No.1. Brain Storming Session Programs



*Fig No.2. Programs*

- **Environment Awareness programs** are done using projectors to display theme-related videos such as : Plastic-free world Theme: New Beginnings. Bio-Diversity water and food.Hygiene with chotta Beem ; Awareness of Microorganisms and spreading of infections; Importance of forests, Animals and pests workshop. Giving information regarding how to keep an “Accident-free Nation”; let’s learn about water.
- **Social Awareness programs** related to how to get rid of critical situations during the pandemic period, creating the interest in the rendering of volunteer service to the affected community of people, explaining natural calamities and their causes and how to protect from them; To live – An awareness and to follow rules and regulations.
- To **teach Old traditional games** to get rid of children from using gadgets and to live a healthy life public librarians gave funful sessions of teaching Pallanguzhi game, Paramapadam game which involves rolling of Thaya kattai of old tradition; Paandi game, by drawing rectangular boxes of lines and children are motivating playing within this line without losing their concentration, Playing using

pebble stones and how to focus the mind at one point to win the game; jumping rope; Hiding games; various games involving physical activities like go-go; badminton, volleyball; swimming and narrating how to become district players /Champions in those games.

- **For Memory Retention Program:** Mind mapping is taught how to pick up themes and to develop subthemes in that particular topic and also to understand the concepts very easily which upgrades their memory power and learning; Building Vocabulary of using new words and memorization technique.
- **Education programs:** Ecstatic Maths; Maths puzzles; Understanding Number operations, fractions and basic Geometry using hands-on manipulatives; Computer oriented kids Quiz; Fun with maths workshop; How to boost Brainpower; Doing Science Experiment sessions like Fun with Science; Introduction to Robotics; Blinking light-emitting diode; Basic Hearing sensor: Fun with Robotics; Bubbles show; explaining Astronomy and exists of planets; Force; Pressure. **To face the modern competitive world, librarians are providing different sessions like Empowering student's brains to write Olympiad exams, particularly in maths and science in order to become great scientists and thus encouraging children's minds to participate in the research activities.**
- **To have recreational activities programs:** Teaching Chess and participating children often in this game will have the opportunity of making decisions of their own and chances of increasing their academic performance through securing higher scores. Thus, public librarians will choose renowned prominent persons and teach the children how to become National and International Chess Champion across the nation and the world.
- **Health programs:** Rhythmic Yoga; Yoga Dance; Health and safety; Human Body and Bone movement; Eye protection training; Oral Heal is overall health; How to increase the immunity of children and how to avoid junk foods; Traditional food and Silambam.
- To overcome struggles in their succeeding life period public librarians chose **biographies of topmost personalities who struggled a lot in their life** and by sacrificing how they become the popular wonderful characteristic personalities. This is especially for children and to give them practical knowledge of how real-life experiences can be woven into stories and to develop self-confidence in their minds to avoid inferiority complexes and able them to survive among with the elite group, this kind of special sessions provided on particular selected birth and death dates of that popular personalities. Programs like Personality development program Vidhaikalam, of Abdul kalam's life History; Swamy Vivekanandar in your life, etc.,
- During special occasions, Public librarians are holding different **competitive contest sessions** like Essay competition, Drawing competition and to inculcate the interest for creativity, public librarians ask them to write poem or story on their own, Speech competition and at the end selected students had given prizes/ gifts to the winners and also to the runners in order to encourage children's mind to involve practically in this thought triggering sessions.

- **Playback Theatre** and its benefits. In this program, artists involved in acting in playback theatre will teach how to express their feelings in many situations and how to act in dramas, etc.,
- **To build up a good relationship with the parents, friends, relatives, and teachers** Public librarians provided programs involved explaining the concepts like “Maintaining the relationship between parents and children in this modern life; teaching consciousness concept programs like “ Building Character of a person by obeying elder people in the society.
- To increase **language proficiency skills** librarians are conducting programs using resource persons like “How to upgrade in grammar and formation of sentences to write good comprehension ?”; Creative writing and how to write a letter?
- **To crack the Competition Exams like TNPSC, TRB, RRB, UPSC, Banking probationary exam, SSC Board conducting exams, programs like How to prepare for the competitive exams?** These programs are done by public librarians by approaching successful IAS and IPS officers who are in the current service to give orientation classes which will be very useful for the students who are preparing for the different competitive exams in order to have a successful career in their life time.
- **To in order to inculcate reading habits in young children** public librarians giving a chance for the children to participate in the “**Book Talk** “program. In this, they can narrate the book theme, characters, titles, and authors, and publishers and this activity will provoke the children for enhancing their learning activity.
- The above-said programs are **rendered according to the guidelines of IAS Officers, Director, Chief Librarian and Information officer (Joint Directors) who are all working currently in Directorate of Public Instruction (D.P.I.), District Library officer of Local Library Authority,** for selecting prominent and popular resources person covering all the fields of user’s area interests by collecting the feedback forms of the attended user’s response to the program.
- **Importance of enhancing personality for children in their career:**
  - Personality is what we perceive in mind.
  - Defined as a dynamic and organised set of characteristics possessed by a person that uniquely influences his or her cognitions, motivations and behaviours in various situations.
  - The word “Personality” originates from the Latin word “Persona”.
  - To deal with different individuals.
  - To enhance career prospects.
  - To cultivate flexibility, persuasion, compassion and diplomacy.
  - To ensure competence in professional life.

- Through participating in different programmes, children's life style matures by understanding of the real world, acquiring of skills for their developmental stages on their life's way to wisdom and therefore also gives solutions to many problems which the children facing in day to day life cycles.
- Personality can refer to a set of qualities that make an individual look distinct from others.

### **Purpose and Benefits of attending the programs in Public Libraries:**

- Nowadays, Public librarians are in the process of sharing the resources kept in their knowledge treasure and giving their excellent service to create the awareness of the people's community through conducting programs in order to upgrade the society.
- To improve their academic achievement and also the creating of reading habits.
- Library programs help children to consult various resources of the library in turn that create interest for participating children and to emerge as a community of "Life Long Learners".
- Provides a chance to have interaction with different resource persons in order to improve their communication skills, improvement in language proficiency skills, spelling, and math computation.
- Children can have the ability of problem-solving capacity in their life period by developing their self-concepts during critical situations by using computational thinking skills.
- Enhances the positive attitude, that create the enthusiasm of having a good mentality in learning, doing teamwork collaboratively that gains knowledge in different subject areas as well as the broadening the vision of the external world.
- Recognizing the theory part of the curriculum knowledge will automatically transform to effective instructional plans which impart the capability of developing leadership abilities.

### **Recommendations**

- Through this study analysis of having a deep vision of reviewing various review literature, Public librarians who are all working in Public libraries including Anna Centenary Library have suggested valuable points for upgrading the society. They are:
- **To have small libraries in all government schools** to impart good reading skills & to conduct different programs thereby enhances their knowledge.
- By having School libraries there will be the chance to conduct different programs to upgrade the children's future careers.
- By participating in school programs **students widen the mentality of the knowledge thereby avoiding the concept of "By hearting the lessons" mechanically.** Further, also they can understand the concepts of the syllabus on their own.

- **Separate Funds** are to be allocated by the State Government to all the public libraries including Anna Centenary Library to do such “Personality developing programs” for children continuously and thus, Public librarians acting as a “Mentor” for the welfare of the society.
- Public librarians working in public libraries of all the districts tend to have a wider collection, proper retrieval process for users to select the interesting subject area books on their own and also to have good planning, organizing, communication, and management skills resulting in emerging as an expert in developing effective library media programs.
- Another perspective demonstrates that **public libraries improve the ICT skills of users.**

## Conclusion

Several programs conducted in Public libraries promote social interaction to attain recreational features of public library activities. Goal-oriented library programs support the general life quality of targeted user segments eg: by improving cognitive skills for children through mind exercises and forming reading clubs. Because the **“Empty mind is the devil’s workshop”**. By engaging the children in any activity-related work / attending program / participating in developing extracurricular activities /sessions, they will have greater exposure and their behaviour also changed which is very essential in **nowadays for having the good moral character**. Then only they can give fruitful things in their future career period. Several studies throw visions on how libraries **connected to develop democratic society implicitly through the investigation of ideas like social interaction, trust creation with user’s community, promoting cultural and informational materials and activities.**

Achieving /developing personality is a must in children because “Human mind with negative thoughts “is the root cause for all the problems facing by individuals in their families and thereby troubling their living society. **The thought of committing suicide with an inferiority complex is very common in underprivileged students who are all living with high motivation., (eg., students involved in appearing for the NEET Exams ) during facing their failure in their lifetime.** Hence, these personality developing programs are needed for children for the upliftment of their character and this provides a path in developing a **good “etiquette” society**. Therefore, a public librarian supports research activities through their contribution to do variety of programs in order to upgrade the society.

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