

Quantitative Research on Peer-Perception and Self-Perception of Grade-5 Students with Reference to Students Who Wear Eyeglasses

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ABSTRACT: It has been observed that the number of school-going students wearing eyeglasses has been steadily increasing over the years. In a report entitled 'Enhancing the Effectiveness and Impact of Schools: Insights from School Health Screening Programme' released in 2019 by Jarma Wellness, a health consultancy firm, with reference to the health problems including that of vision in school-going children, has found that 25.5% children had an abnormal vision(*Reference: <https://www.livemint.com/science/health/india-schoolchildren-suffer-from-abnormal-bmi-vision-dental-issues-report-1554383077480.html>*). The Covid-19 pandemic directed students and teachers towards online teaching and learning. This mode of study has been widely criticised as it has increased the screen time for students thereby resulting in the weakening of eye-sight. Keeping in view the fact that children hold their own opinions about their peers who wear eyeglasses, a study was undertaken to assess how these perceptions differ in 'students who wear eyeglasses', hereafter known as Category A, and those who 'do not wear eyeglasses', hereafter referred to as Category B. These perceptions that children hold may have led to a certain behavioural pattern among students, for example, teasing. A popular perception among students about children who wear eyeglasses is that they are academically bright. On the other hand, yet another perception is that students who wear eyeglasses look like old people. Some considered that wearing eyeglasses is stylish while some others considered it silly thereby making the appearance of an individual an important aspect of personality.