

#### 4.4. Pre-School Education :

It is a type of education, which is given to a child before entering in a formal school, so that a child can be prepared physically and mentally. This type of education is also known as Pre-Primary education as it is imparted before primary education. With the help of pre-school education, it becomes easy to establish the base for physical, psychological, cognitive and social development of children. It also helps to develop the



internal qualities of children.

The education commission of 1946-66 opines that - the pre-school education is most important for physical, psychological, emotional and intellectual development of a child, especially for those children, whose home environment or the environment in the surroundings are not proper. Pre-school education aims at the development of different aspects through which they can step forward in right direction of their later life independently and confidently.

Pre-School education is provided to children through play, singing, dancing etc. i.e. through recreation. Children learn about good health habits, rules of personal hygiene and get acinted with different play equipment and can learn skills needed to play with them. Thus children get the opportunity to play with their playmates in a well protected environment under the care and supervision of the teacher. Hence proper growth and development of different aspects takes place.

#### **4.4(a) Need and Objectives of Pre-School Education :**

The pre-school age is the most important age in ones life. The rate of growth in children is also very rapid during this period. Different researches also proved that increase in intellectual development is about fifty percent at this age. Whatever is learned at this age gets so deeply embedded in a child that it becomes difficult to change later on for which proper environment is also equally important. Thus pre-school provides rich experiences to the child and help him develop good habit, proper attitudes and questioning mind.

Due to rapid growth and development during pre-school years, the child is able to take in almost anything, if it is given to him in a form which he can understand. A child gains more experiences, form good habits from an enriching environment at the pre-school stage.

A child who has pre school experience before joining the primary school can adjust himself easily in primary classes because of his early preparation. In pre-school a child gains better emotional control, develop proper behaviour and attitudes. Such preparation in the pre-school helps him in his subsequent education. Thus pre-school education prepares a



sound base for primary education.

In a pre-school, a child gets the opportunity to learn through play, drawing singing etc. This helps the child in socialisation. Children love to play with other children and they may not get the opportunity to play with playmates at home. In this process of learning, children learn to share and co-operate with other children, which in turn helps children for their optimum development.

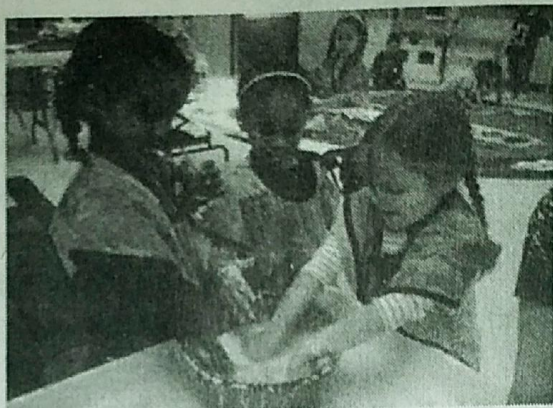
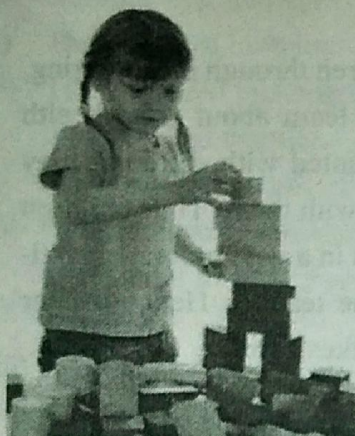


Fig - 7

*Solitary play during the initial days of preschool giving way to group activity*

Early stimulation and educational enrichment can promote creativity in small children. According to educationists - the period of maximum learning in children is from 2-3 years. It was also felt that - early educational intervention providing stimulation and instruction during pre-school years would make a difference in the child pre-school experiences. Thus the children of today need to be prepared for the vastly complex and rapidly changing world of tomorrow. Pre-school education can be regarded as the foundation for future life of children.

#### **4.4(b) Objectives of Pre-School Education :**

The objective of pre-school education is to help in all round development.

The Objective of pre-school education are :

1. To develop in the child a good physique, adequate muscular co-ordination and basic motor skills through the various activities of the pre-school.



2. To develop in the child good healthy habits and to build up basic skills necessary for personal adjustment such as dressing, toilet habits, eating, washing, cleaning etc.
3. To develop desirable social attitudes and manners to encourage healthy group participation and to make the child sensitive to the rights and privileges of others.
4. To develop emotional maturity by guiding the child to express, understand, accept and control his feelings and emotions.
5. To encourage and stimulate aesthetic appreciation.
6. To stimulate intellectual curiosity and to help him understand the world in which he lives, and to foster new interaction by giving opportunities to explore, investigate and experiment.
7. To encourage independence and creativity by providing the child with sufficient opportunities for self expression.
8. To develop the child's ability to express his thought and feelings in fluent, correct, clear speech.
9. To develop moral values such as faith in God, respect to elders and younger, promote civic concepts and other human values.