

HOUSING

L.No	Title of Lesson	SKILLS	Activity
12	Housing	Self Awareness and Empathy, Interpersonal Communication and Effective Communication, Critical Thinking & Creative Thinking, Problem Solving & Decision Making, Coping with Stress	Importance of site selection; proper lightning at home and disposal of waste

Summary

Home is the basic need of a family. **House** is physical construction made of brick, sand, cement, stone etc. A **house** becomes **home** when all the family members start living there and enjoy all the happiness, love and affection, health, ease, comfort, social and entertainment activities. Home not only provides shelter but also provides security and belongingness.

The place where we construct a house is called a **site**. For building a house, site selection is very important. A good site should have developed neighbourhood, firm soil, practical convenience (e.g., school, hospital etc.), have good sanitary disposal system and elevated physical features.

Ventilation means to circulate fresh air and driving out foul air in order to freshen up the interiors of a house.

Hygiene at home can be maintained through proper lighting, cross ventilation, sanitation and by proper disposal of human excreta by water closet and septic tanks. Advantages of septic tanks are: hygienic; low cost of construction and maintenance; no pollution of water; no foul smell; saves water in flushing; cleaning pit not required; provides manure; gases disperse in soil and no mosquito, fly or insect breeding.

One should also learn to dispose off waste properly to ensure that soil and water is not polluted.

Principal Points

Functions of a Home

A home is much more than a house. Here is a list of its different functions:

- **Protective:** Provides security and shelter, protects from weather, animals and enemies.
- **Economic:** Offer value in terms of money; raises socio-economic status and can generate income.
- **Educative:** Helps in development of personality, family values, life Skills and responsibility.
- **Social/religious:** Promotes interaction, develops sense of belongingness, helps in transfer of values and customs.

Build Your Understanding

Optimum use of areas

To make best use of all areas in the house, consider the following points:

- List and combine all activities that take place in each room.
- Decide space for each activity.
- Do not over-crowd the room.
- Use multi-purpose furniture that may also be used for storage and room division.
- Utilize space below staircase.

What's Important to Know?

Selection of Site for a Home

You can select proper site for your house by keeping the following points in mind:

- **Neighborhood:** Ensure that house is in an area which is developed in all aspects i.e. electricity, roads and drainage. Common facilities like post-office, hospitals, schools etc. should be available nearby.
- **Physical features:** Choose a house in an open area. It should not be close to heavy traffic areas. Avoid low-lying areas due to danger of flooding or water logging.
- **Soil:** The soil should be firm till 2-5 meters/feet below the surface to ensure a strong foundation. Remember that:
 - **Loose soil** - leads to tilt due to shifting of soil.
 - **Sandy or gravel soils** - tend to make house hot.
 - **Rocky surface** - is good for foundation but does not absorb water.
- **Sanitary Requirements:** Site should be filled with fresh and firm soil and elevated to the level of the road outside.
- **Practical convenience:** Market, transport facility, post-office, schools, hospitals, banks etc. should be within reasonable walking distance.

Extend Your Horizon

A village near your place does not have proper sanitary conditions. How will you help the people living in that village to improve their sanitary conditions?

Did You Know?

Light: Proper lighting is important. It enhances the beauty of the house. Two types of lighting are:

- **Natural Lighting:** That we receive from natural sources i.e. the sun.
- **Artificial Lighting:** That we receive from artificial sources such as tube light and bulbs.

Ventilation: Fresh air is essential for healthy living. It can be done through natural or artificial sources. Windows of the room should be kept open so that fresh air circulates freely, even in winters. Cross ventilation is desirable.

Sanitation:

- Maintaining cleanliness- Daily cleaning, weekly cleaning and spring or seasonal cleaning.
- Removal of garbage.
- Disposal of waste water and human excreta through Water Closet and Septic tanks.

Evaluate Yourself

1. In a house, there is a big hall to be shared by two brothers. How will you create privacy and space?
2. You are living in a village. What type of latrine is best for you and why? Give four reasons.
3. You have employed a servant. Define his/her cleaning duties to be done on daily, weekly and seasonal basis?

Maximize your marks

Learn the tables given in the chapter.

Study all diagrams in the chapter to better understand the key aspects.