# PREVAILING HEALTH PROBLEMS IN PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN AND ROLE OF SCHOOL NURSE IN EL WAYELY ZONE IN CAIRO

#### Thesis

Submitted to High Institute of Nursing for Patial Fulfilment of the Master Degree in Community Health Nursing

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Sabah Abd E. Manny Radwan

B.Sc. Nursia Camp University

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من شعر الحماسة



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#### Dedication

This piece of work is gratefully dedicated to my father, husband and children.

With love and thanks.

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# INTRODUCTION

## INTRODUCTION

children of school age are teachable. They are quite willing to accept new theories and new mode of life (Walton, 1985). According to Cooper, (1979), large percentage of adults' illness is the result of attitudes and health behaviour acquired in childhood. Consequently education to establish good health habits during the critical years is of prime importance.

School is the work place of children. It is the place for which to experience success, accomplishment, and an increasing sense of competence. When an illness imposes limits on children's physical or cognitive abilities and reduces apportunities to succeed in school work. (Shaywitz and Witz, 1984). According to Ebrahim, (1982) if the child does not maintain adequate health, the benefits of education will be lost on account of absenteeism or lack of attention due to ill health. Whild left unhelped until adolescence, is grone to express failure at school, at work and as a parent too.

Nemir & Scholler; (1978), Pointed out that child's health deems to be everyone's business. An understanding of the health problems of school children will contribute to assist the school-aged dhild in having a positive learning exper some, and if we are to

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improve the standards of community health, the best place to start is with our children. They are the seed corn of the future.

According to (Latham, et al., 1977), the school years are known as the middle childhood and the preadolescent phase which covers the period from 6 to 12 years of age, This critical period of development during which the child is brought for the first time into full and continuing contact with others outside his home.

Ayyash, (1975) pointed out that children are the most precious resource for the development of nations. They form the bridge between rich memories of the past and the very promises of the future. To achieve their role in an efficient way when they become adult, children must be healthy in their bodies, mind and behaviour.

The school can become a potential source for the spread of communicable diseases unless they are properly supervised. Thus the community health nurse must be prepared to meet the demand of a constantly changing environment. Nursing must become increasingly future - sighted in developing roles and practice areas. (Schoolcraft; 1984)

AIM OF THE STUDY

# AIM OF THE STUDY

## The aim of this study is to :

- 1 Identify the most common health problems among school children in the age group (6 - 12 years) both sexes in El Wayely Zone.
- 2 Assess the knowledge and the role of school nurse in the prevention and management of school health problems.