

Original Article

The Impact of Lesson Study on Teachers' Career Enrichment

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Introduction

Research teaching is a professional development approach where teachers collaborate to develop lesson plans, implement them, observe, and analyze outcomes to enhance student learning.

Method

This study examines the effect of research teaching on the career enrichment of elementary teachers using a semi-experimental method with pre-tests, post-tests, and a control group. The participants included all primary school teachers in Kohdasht during the 2001-2002 academic year, both those involved in the teaching-research process and those not participating. The independent variable was teacher participation in the process, while career enrichment and its components served as dependent variables. The teaching-research sessions lasted 90 minutes each and were held twice a week over nine sessions. The sample comprised 45 participants in the experimental group and 45 in the control group, selected through available sampling. Data was collected using Hockman and Oldham's (1975) career enrichment questionnaire, which was validated by experts and yielded a Cronbach's alpha ranging from 0.58 to 0.62, with a total alpha of 0.724 for the five factors examined. Data analysis was performed using SPSS software, employing descriptive statistics for mean and standard deviation, and multivariate covariance analysis for inferential statistics.

Results

The research findings indicated a significant difference in career enrichment scores between teachers participating in the teaching-research process and those who did not ($p=0.000$). This suggests that research teaching effectively enhances teacher career enrichment.

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Discussion

Teaching research is a new approach to enhancing teachers' careers and improving classroom learning. Key components of an effective research teaching program include providing learning opportunities, knowledge of learning theories, utilizing teaching aids, fostering a desire to enhance knowledge and job skills, and motivating students. This approach has been successfully applied in group work. Implementing programs that promote cooperation and consensus among educators and focus on exploring scientific topics can significantly improve educational quality.

Keywords: Lesson study, career enrichment, teachers, Kohdasht city

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