

Enhancing Low Performed Eighth Standard Students' Outcoming of Science through Blended Learning

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Abstract

This article deals with low performed students in science subjects for eighth standard students. Science is a dynamic, expanding body of knowledge, covering new domains of experiences. It is a human endeavor to understand the world by building - up conceptual models based on observations and thus arriving at theories, laws and principles. In a progressive society, science can play a truly liberating role, helping people escape from the vicious cycle of poverty, ignorance and superstition. Blended learning should be viewed as a pedagogical approach that combines the effectiveness and socialization opportunities of the classroom with the technologically enhanced active learning possibilities of the online environment of study. National Achievement Survey (NAS) is a nationally representative large-scale survey of students' learning undertaken by the Ministry of Education, Government of India. NAS gives a system-level reflection on the effectiveness of school education. NAS is a nationwide survey conducted to assess the learning outcomes and health of the education system. NAS is conducted once every three years. Findings help compare the performance across the spectrum and population to find the desired direction for improvements. NAS findings would help diagnose learning gaps of students and determine interventions required in education policies, teaching practices and learning. Through its diagnostic report cards, NAS findings help in capacity building for teachers, officials involved in the delivery of education.

Keywords: *Low Performed Students in Science and Blended Learning*

Introduction

Science education cultivates students' curiosity about the world and enhances scientific thinking. Through the inquiry process, students will recognize the nature of science and develop scientific knowledge and science process skills to help them evaluate the impacts of scientific and technological development. Beyond the potential scientific breakthroughs, there are individual benefits to learning science, such as developing our ability to ask questions, collect information, organize and test our ideas, solve problems, and apply what we learn. The findings of the NAS (2017) for Madurai district is revealed the average performance of students in all subjects and the lowest performance of the students in all subjects. This makes the investigator go through the lowest performance of learning outcomes in science. The overall average performance of students in science was 32.65%. In upper primary schools, the students of VIII standard find difficulties to answer the questions in state level achievement survey, national level achievement survey and National means cum merit scholarship. In future days, students will have to face competitive examination which are commonly based on

learning outcomes. Therefore, the current evaluation system also paid attention to this aspect. In Madurai district VIII standard students had scored very low in few of the learning outcomes in NAS-2017. In order to increase focus on lowest performance learning outcomes the investigator has chosen the topic "Enhancing the low performed learning outcomes of science through blended learning among VIII standard students in Madurai district"

Related Studies

Bhatt, Dipen P. (2018) has done the research under the title "Effectiveness of drama based activities to developed speaking skills of ESL (English as a Second Language) learners at secondary level".

The main objective of this research was to study effectiveness of drama based activities to developed speaking skills. It has been generally used for entertainment drama is an influential medium of expression, proving itself over decades to be the combination of many skills. An actor, more than a common man, possesses all extra skills and his personality is noticeably developed. Students divided into two classes