ICT AS INQUIRY – ORIENTED APPROACH TO ENHANCE TEACHING, LEARNING, ATTITUDE AND THINKING SKILLS TOWARDS SCIENCE AT RURAL SCHOOLS

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A project report submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Education (Curriculum and Instruction)

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Tandatangan (Signature) :

Tarikh (Date) : 1 Disember 2009
DECLARATION

I declare that this project entitled "ICT as Inquiry – Oriented Approach To Enhance Teaching, Learning, Attitude And Thinking Skills Towards Science At Rural Schools" is the result of my own research except as cited in the references.

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COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

UNIVERSITY UTARA MALAYSIA
ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to investigate ICT as inquiry-oriented approach to enhance thinking skills, attitude towards teaching and learning science at rural schools. Level of ICT usage, level of knowledge in ICT, teachers and students attitude and impact of ICT usage in understanding the concepts in science lesson have also been investigated. The study also investigates teachers and students attitude and motivation towards the use of computer in science classroom.

The respondents in this study were thirty Science teachers and seventy pupils from year 3 to year 5. Seven rural schools of Zone 7, Semanggol were involved in this study. The schools are located in Kerian district. The data collection methods used in this study were sets of questionnaires and interviews to find the obstacles in ICT usage and observation of pupils work and presentation. The data in this study was analyzed by using SPSS 14.0 software (Statistical Packages for Social Science) and presented in the form of frequency and percentage, mean and standard deviation. The findings of this study were illustrated that most of the teachers and students have positive attitude towards the use of ICT in science classroom. Also, this study was proved that students have high motivation when computers were used in Science learning classroom. Through this study, it could be concluded that the use of ICT as inquiry-oriented approach in science classroom should be encouraged because it helps to motivate students and generate a positive attitude towards Science learning.
ABSTRAK

Kajian ini bertujuan untuk mengkaji penggunaan ICT sebagai inkuiri-penemuan dalam memantapkan kemahiran berfikir dan sikap dalam pengajaran dan pembelajaran Sains di kawasan luar bandar. Tahap penggunaan ICT, tahap pengetahuan guru dan murid, serta sikap guru dan murid terhadap penggunaan ICT dan keberkesanan serta impak penggunaan ICT dalam subjek Sains juga diberi tumpuan dalam kajian ini. Sikap dan motivasi guru serta pelajar terhadap penggunaan ICT dalam pengajaran dan pembelajaran Sains juga dikenalpasti.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHAPTER</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TITLE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DECLARATION</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PERMISSION TO USE</td>
<td>i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT</td>
<td>ii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ABSTRACT</td>
<td>iii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ABSTRAK</td>
<td>iv</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TABLE OF CONTENTS</td>
<td>v</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LIST OF TABLES</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LIST OF DIAGRAM</td>
<td>xii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LIST OF APPENDICES</td>
<td>xiii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONE</td>
<td>INTRODUCTION</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Research background</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Problem Statement</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TWO : REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Introduction 62

Literature Review in Inquiry-Oriented Approach 62

ICT Literature 65

Teacher’ Attitude towards ICT 67

Students’ Attitude towards ICT 70

Malaysian Issues in ICT 74

Pedagogical Practice 79
Practical work in Science 81
ICT and Inquiry-Oriented Approach 82
Impact of Technology in Science Learning 85
Students Construct Knowledge 87
Teachers’ Reflection 90
Theoretical Approach 91
Thinking Skills and Self-Paced Learning 96
Using ICT

Conclusion 100

THREE : RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Introduction 101
Research Design 101
Sample 103
Participants 104
Pilot Study 105
Research Instruments 106
Data Collection Method 107
FOUR : SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Introduction 112
Respondents Demography Information 112
Analysis on Teacher’s Demography 112
Analysis on Student’s Demography 114
Analysis of Teacher’s Skills 116
Analysis of Student’s Skills 118
Analysis of ICT usage and the effect on Science lesson 119
Interview results 121
Observation 126
Reflective Reports 128
Conclusion 130
FIVE : CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

Introduction 132
Discussion of the Study 132
Recommendation for ICT knowledge 138
and skills
The impact of ICT as inquiry in science 142
learning
Suggestion for future research 144
Conclusion 148

REFERENCES 150

APPENDICES 153
# LIST OF TABLE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE NO.</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>Four levels of questioning to promote analytical thinking skills</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>Total of respondent</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>Teachers Demography On Gender</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>Teacher's age and ICT usage.</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>Academic qualification and ICT usage</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>Experience in ICT Usage</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>Students Demography On Gender</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>Students' age and ICT usage</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>Experience In Computer Usage</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>Level of ICT knowledge</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>Level of ICT usage</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.10</td>
<td>Level of Attitude towards ICT</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.11 Level of Knowledge in ICT
4.12 Level of ICT usage
4.13 Student’s Attitude towards ICT
4.14 Results of Pearson Correlation test between ICT usage and the effects on science lesson
4.15 Obstacles faced in the use of ICT in schools
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DIAGRAM NO.</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>Conceptual Framework</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# LIST OF APPENDICES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>APPENDICES</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Approval Letter from Educational Planning and Research Development (EPRD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Teachers’ Questionnaire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Students’ Questionnaire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Interview Questions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Rubric PowerPoint Presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Output</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

The Malaysian government has introduced various initiatives to facilitate greater integration of information and communication technology (ICT) to enhance the effectiveness of education and training programmers in Science. This was outlined in the country’s ICT Master Plan, finalized in 2001. The long-term vision of the plan, Vision 2020, calls for sustained, productivity-driven growth, possible only with a technologically literate, critically thinking workforce, prepared to participate fully in the global economy of the 21st century. This vision can be implemented through inquiry-oriented science by using innovative ICT.

In line with the country’s information and communication technology (ICT) master plan and vision 2020, which envisages its longer-term development, Malaysia recognizes that the transformation of its education system is fundamental to achieving its objectives. The Ministry of Education, with the participation of non-governmental agencies, is
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References


