

Contextualized Nature Exposure: A Strategy in Teaching Biodiversity

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Abstract

In the current situation, due to pandemic, where conventional teaching cannot be considered as an applicable teaching approach and modular distance learning is the major teaching modality being implemented, an innovative teaching strategy should be adapted that will encourage independent learning among learners. This quantitative research aims to determine the effectiveness of Contextualized Nature Exposure as a strategy in teaching Biodiversity to the academic performance and environmental sensitivity of Grade 7 learners. The research design of the study uses Quasi-experimental design. Specifically, this study used the Matching-Only design. The participants of the study were two heterogeneous classes from a public school in the 5th District of Iloilo which were assigned as a purposively selected treatment group and control group which were randomly selected, both of which were taken from 6 regular Grade 7 sections. The research instruments were administered personally by the researcher. Based on the result of the study, there is a significant difference in the academic performance in Biodiversity of the Grade 7 learners who were exposed to Contextualized Nature Exposure Teaching Strategy (CNETS) if compared to those who were exposed to the Non-contextualized Teaching Strategy (NCTS) though both groups have the same level of Environmental Sensitivity. The findings indicate that those who were exposed to CNETS have better academic performance in Biodiversity than those who were exposed to NCTS. The researcher concludes that CNETS with the use of a researcher-made contextualized module is an effective intervention in teaching science, particularly Biodiversity. The researcher recommends the use of CNETS in teaching not only in Biodiversity but also in other fields where nature exposure is applicable and be more explorative on the use of different strategies that can make learning more interesting, interactive and enjoyable.

Keywords: Teaching Biodiversity, strategy, Contextualized Nature Exposure, innovative teaching