

Experiential Learning in Early Childhood Education and Care involving Interaction between Junior High School and Early Elemental School Students

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Abstract

The aim of this research was to examine the effectiveness of "Experience in Early Childhood Education and Care" (ECEC) through Junior high school student's interaction with early elemental school students. The narratives written by junior high school students after ECEC were analyzed, and were classified into several categories. These categories were then compared with those of the descriptions written by high school students on the impression about ECEC with preschool children. The results were as follows;

- From ECEC with early elemental school students, these junior high school students learned several important features about children including ECEC with preschool children.
- These junior high school students' social self-efficacy increased as a result of their interaction with the early elementary school as well as preschool children.

These results suggest that ECEC with early elementary school students can be used interchangeably with ECEC with preschool children.

Key words; Experience in Early Childhood Education and Care, Home economics curriculum, Early elementary school students, Junior high school students