

Current State and Problems of Food Education in Elementary School: From the Viewpoints of Roles and Problems in “Home Economics” as a Subject

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Abstract

This research is aimed to clarify the role and the problem of home economics when teaching food education as a subject in Japan. For the first stage of the development, we considered the current state of food education in elementary school and the logical roles of home economics by analyzing of governmental standards, the course of studies, and the textbooks.

In elementary school, food education is usually taught by the homeroom teachers through out the whole school, and the school lunch is created to coordinate with them. However, topics that centered on home economics that are forced to teach the contents of school lunch are not structured because there is no legal standard. The lesson development about "selection of food" that was part of the 2008 fiscal year study, shows a lack of sufficient data in order for home economics to play a role.

Key words; Food Education, Elementary School, Home Economics, School Lunch