Assessing the Effectiveness of the Home Economics Manual on Universal Design: Elementary School Teachers

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Abstract

In this study, we incorporated a portion of the hands-on-learning exercises presented in the manual into a teacher certification training course to evaluate their effectiveness.

Preliminary surveys revealed that many elementary school teachers did not have a concrete image of UD products and only had a superficial understanding of UD. In the post-program evaluation, it was found that a number of the teachers not only deepened their understanding of UD but, also, changed their outlook in various areas. Specifically, they developed an appreciation for the importance of people and things, recognized the need for assistance to achieve self-reliance in daily life, became aware of importance of realizing an equal society, and gained a deeper understanding of the essence of home economics.

Key words: home economics, universal design, elementary school, teacher