

THE DEVELOPMENT OF A GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION USING ICT IN CLASSROOMS

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Activities Report from January to June 2005

1. THE ACTION RESEARCH PROJECT IN NUEVO LEON, MEXICO

There are only three primary schools from Nuevo Leon, Mexico participating on this action research project:

Primary School: “Profesor Simón Salazar Mora”

Primary School: “Ingeniero Leopoldo García Naranjo”

Primary School: “Antonio Martínez de Castro”

All Projects from basic education schools in Nuevo Leon focus on aspects like School Organization, Classroom Work and Teaching Methods, and Community Participation. School Projects try to solve the problems related with the three aspects mentioned before, but taking as a base the teaching and learning problems.

After realizing a diagnostic, it was detected that the students from the three schools have the same learning problems: Reading and Writing basic skills.

Therefore, the purposes of this action research project in Nuevo Leon, Mexico are:

- To fortify the teaching and learning process about reading and learning; but to guide it to the construction of knowledge, collaborative classroom work, diversity respect, and the ICT use to develop a moral, intellectual and physical autonomy in our students and at the same time to influence in the community transformation.
- To build family and community participation frames in our schools to make stronger our School Projects and results.
- To transform the schools into a formation and participation place for the community, providing elements to answer and solve the challenges and social problems about the citizenship concept.

2. THE WORK PLAN TO DEVELOP THE CITIZENSHIP PROJECT

The three primary schools involved in this action research project try to develop a Global Citizenship Education. The strategies to follow are related with three aspects: School Organization, Classroom Work and Teaching Methods, and Community Participation.

During our first teacher training in London, we presented our work plan from Nuevo Leon and it included our purposes and strategies. This project plan was elaborated by the three primary school teachers involved (Yazmin Garza, Fabiola Araiza and Jesus Gomez) and by our pedagogical coordinator from the Education Department (Olivia Flores).

In addition, school teachers developed their own Practice Based Research project. They were planning activities according with their student's needs and school context.

The Practice Based Research projects from the school teachers are:

SCHOOL TEACHER	PRIMARY SCHOOL	PRACTICE BASED RESEARCH
Yazmin Garza	Profesor Simon Salazar Mora	<i>The use of ICT to improve the teaching and learning process of the history</i>
Fabiola Araiza	Ingeniero Leopoldo Garcia Naranjo	<i>The impact that the Interactive Whiteboards have on teaching and learning the subject of Citizenship in students from a low socioeconomic status</i>
Jesus Gomez	Antonio Martinez de Castro	<i>The use of ICT to improve moral values on students</i>

3. OUR ACHIEVEMENTS AND DIFFICULTIES IN THE PRIMARY SCHOOL "PROFESOR SIMON SLAZAR MORA"

After our first teacher training workshop in London we were getting ready everything to develop our Citizenship Project. First, it was important to have all the technological equipment to start working. Then it was supposed to follow the strategies planned to solve aspects related with *School Organization, Classroom Work and Teaching Methods, and Community Participation*.

a) School Organization

Our first problem was the equipment. We did not have the enough economical resources to set up all the security measures and get ready the classroom for setting up the whiteboard.

The interactive whiteboard arrived to our school the first days of March. After we had our summer vacations and when we came back to classes we waited some time to get all the equipment for the classroom. Finally on April 22nd our white board was ready.

One advantage was that on December other two classrooms were equipment with Polyvision Interactive Whiteboards and our students had the opportunity to use them as part of the "Enciclomedia" federal programme in Mexico.

However, we did not manage to achieve some the planned strategies:

Strategy	Achievements	Difficulties
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers meetings • Citizenship Project Commit • To follow and to evaluate the actions taken by the committee and the school teachers for the citizenship project. 	School official documents storage and elaboration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistance records • Evaluations record • Students exams • Certificates • Parents notifications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom equipment • Teachers meetings' schedule • Project's role allocation

b) Classroom Work and Teacher Methods

It is supposed that we were planning reading and writing strategies to develop the citizenship project. In our activities and strategies we tried to develop knowledge, concepts, skills and attitudes in our students in order that they will get a moral, cognitive and physical autonomy.

I planned some history activities where student developed some concepts, skills and attitudes, as planned. We were using little time for our interactive whiteboard because we had different school activities like graduation, exams, meetings about evaluations, ceremonies, etc.

Strategy	Achievements	Difficulties
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpretation and writing of different texts. • To create comics and other text genres about citizenship topics. • To investigate and discuss about citizenship topics. • To show role plays. • Reading Campaign with parents and students about the same topic. • Exhibition about student's productions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students motivation and interest • The interactive whiteboard has been used in every subject. • Students have learned to analyze, describe and calculate by using videos, images, biographies and maps from Encarta and Enciclomedia. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom equipment delay • Teachers lack of control over the new technological tools • Activities planning

c) Community Participation

Strategy	Achievements	Difficulties
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Security Programmes. • To work with parents about citizenship topics and relationships. • To organize parents workshops. • To organize campaigns about different aspects: economic, academic, cleaning, health, culture and art. • To organize artistic and cultural events with the support of the government. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To communicate the parents about the new technological equipment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning activities where parents are involved.