

Title of the practice - Action Research Papers

The context that required the initiation of the practice.

Action Research being a core paper endeavours to expose students to the rigour of research in their encounter as practitioners. Students were placed in collaborative groups (25 groups of 4 students each) and worked on topics that focussed on designing intervention programmes as scaffolding devices to smoothen learning across different school subjects such as, mathematics, english, second and third language and geography.

Objectives of the practice

The objective of the action research papers was to equip the teacher trainees with the necessary knowledge and confidence to carry out the research for problem solving in the schools in their career as teachers. The main aim of the practice was to develop in the teacher trainees the aptitude for research.

The Practice

The students were given practical orientation towards action research and how to write research papers because action research was a core paper in the curriculum. The goal of a research paper is to bring together different perspectives such as; evidences, approaches, methodologies and concerns from books, articles and other research materials as well as results and interpretation of their own inquiry in relation to the topic at hand so that it benefits one's own practice as well as enhancing community consciousness. The quasi-experimental approach was adopted in all the 25 studies. Instead of traversing the routinely advocated style of documenting views, evidences and findings in Research Project Reports, they were exposed to the rudiments and structure of building a research paper. The teacher trainees undertook the studies in their respective teaching field. The action research was conducted in their respective internship schools. The data gathered from the studies was later compiled and analysed into action research papers.

Obstacles faced if any and strategies adopted to overcome them

Being amateurs, the task was uphill, the students being first time exposed to research were finding it difficult to grasp and understand the method. Nevertheless, they were able to comprehend, scale and write their papers with guidance and mentoring provided by the faculty concerned.

Impact of the practice

To check the impact of the practice, feedback was taken from the students and the papers were evaluated. From the feedback it was observed that the students found action research a very useful tool to solve the problems which they faced in the school. The students gained practical experience towards writing of research papers which they were of the opinion that it will help them in their career as teachers. From the evaluation of the papers, it was quite evident that most of the teacher trainees had developed research aptitudes and the students found very creative ways to solve the issues faced in the schools. Writing a research paper encourages students to explore a topic that is intriguing or one that needs immediate attention, creates a research mind-set, promotes curiosity, develops skill in writing a manuscript addressing every aspect of the study and also not forgetting plagiarism and infringing on IPR.

Resources required

The books from the college library were used for reference purpose

8. About the Institution

i. Name of the Institution: Nirmala Institute of Education

ii. Year of Accreditation:2014

iii. Address: Altinho Panaji-Goa

iv. Grade awarded by NAAC: B

v. E-Mail: niegoa@gmail.com

vi. Contact person for further details: Dr Russell D'Souza (8806476170)

vii. Website: <http://www.nirmalainstitute.org/>