

STUDIES

Parentification and Grandparents' Support from the Perspective of Grandchildren from Families of Various Structures¹

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DOI: 10.1515/atd-2016-0003

Abstract: The purpose of this study was to determine the strength of the relationship between a retrospective evaluation of the experienced social support given by grandparents and the material status of the family with the quality of life of the grown-up grandchildren in families of different structures. The formulated expectations have been verified with the Social Support Scale (SSS), Student's Life Satisfaction Scale (SLSS) and an individual personal survey. The obtained results show that in families of single mothers, the emotional and informative support offered by grandparents was a significant factor improving the quality of the life of the grandchildren. In a complete family, however, the significant forms of support from grandparents were esteem support and its other forms, except for informative support. Moreover, the material wealth of the original family was shown to be an important predictor of the evaluation of the quality of life of the grandchildren; it was judged more negatively by adolescent children of single mothers.

Key words: grandparents-grandchildren relationships, single mother families, quality of life of teenagers.

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ARTICLES

Class Teachers – Their Thinking and Reasoning in the Context of Creating a Favourable Classroom Social Climate by Means of the Methods of Personal and Social Education

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Abstract: The paper deals with class teachers' thinking and reasoning processes and the possibilities of influencing teachers' ability to create a favourable classroom social climate. This paper describes personal and social education as one of the means and methods of such influencing. The results of the research carried out indicate that teachers have a very high opinion regarding their ability to create a favourable classroom social climate. The issues of personal and social education in the work of a class teacher are the topic of the project KEGA 002DTI-4/2013 being solved by a team of professionals at Dubnica Institute of Technology in Dubnica nad Váhom.

Key words: class teacher, personal and social education, favourable classroom social climate, perceived self-efficacy.

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Engineering Pedagogy Students' Attitudes on Teaching Quality

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Abstract: The aim of the current survey was to make the outcomes of an analysis of mature-age student essays available in a convenient form to those who might be interested – engineering teachers and faculty management. Results of this survey are compared with a similar one conducted 8 years ago. Students presumed high expertise of their teachers, but also underlined importance of the real-world engineering examples.

Key words: teaching quality, essay analysis, qualitative methodology, teacher expertise, human/ didactic qualities.

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Development of Key Competencies in Integrated Teaching Workplaces

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Abstract: This article deals with the determination and definition of competencies of pupils and their development in an integrated didactic work place. The article focuses on the practical teaching in the turning workshop at secondary school. The development of competencies is based on the learning objectives for the subject “Technology of Turning” in the practical teaching. The general learning objectives are further specified in sub-objectives, in which the various competencies the student should acquire and develop are defined.

Key words: key competencies, integrated teaching workplace, turning.

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Structuring the Curriculum

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Abstract: In the proposed paper, we deal with the opportunities of structuring the curriculum. On the theoretical level, we discuss the content of education, the process of knowledge selection and organization, suggestions for increasing the quality of textbooks.

Key words: structuring the curriculum, mental representation, cognitive modification, interference, curriculum, curricular content.

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Practical Use of the Eye Camera in Pedagogical Research (Processing of Selected Data Using the Eye Tracking Method)

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Abstract: The paper deals with author's pilot experiments using the eye tracking method for the primary school children examination. This method enables to gain a large amount of research data based on the tested people's eye movements monitoring. In the paper, there are processed chosen research data of four gifted students' examination in the context of their mathematical and logical intelligence.

Key words: eye tracking, research, mathematical and logical intelligence, gifted students.

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Visual Observations as Exercises in Physics

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Abstract: Visual meteor observations are a fun and interesting approach to astronomy and to scientific research in general. It can be used for laboratory or practical exercises in physics at high schools and universities. The students can personally collect and analyze the acquired data. The output consists of Zenithal Hourly Rate (ZHR) values, spatial density and population index. In this paper, the so called counting method is described as it is the most suitable method for beginners. As a practical example, the ZHR curve of the Lyrid meteor shower was evaluated and the maximum and the duration of the shower were calculated.

Key words: meteors, practical exercises in physics, visual observations.

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