

The reality of employing school libraries in the educational process in Jordan from teachers and librarians' perspectives

Research – Results

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Abstract

The study's objective is to investigate the reality of library activities within the curriculum, the frequency of library classes in school schedules, and identify the levels of use of libraries and their contribution to education. Qualitative and quantitative methods were used. The total library activities within the topics taught in the first ten stages were no more than 92 activities. There is no structured methodology for distributing library activities in the curriculum in all grades. Thus, the employment of libraries in the educational process was weak. Also, the link between libraries and the curriculum prescribed was weak. The study contributes to filling the gaps between the concept of school library education and the reality of school libraries in the educational process. The study recommended that the library activities be sufficiently included in curricula for all grades to allocate library classes in the weekly program for learning library skills.

Keywords

school library, library education, Jordan, teachers, librarians

5. Conclusion

The current study's findings identified some of the significant lacking in the use of school of the library in private schools since most of the private school teachers failed to apply them effectively. As in the first place, for first to third elementary grade students, all curricula do not have library activities. Also, some subjects have completely abandoned library activities, such as the English language curriculum for all grades. There is also no organized methodology for the distribution of library activities. It is sometimes available in all grades starting in the fourth grade, as in the Arabic language, history, and science curricula, where more than 20 activities are in each. At the same time, it is found rare in other curricula in English language, mathematics, and computer curricula. There is a weakness in the library activities available with conflicting availability and distribution in the curricula; thus, there is a weakness in the use of the library in the educational process, so its support for the curriculum is weak. The study also concludes that female schools have much more activity in school libraries than male school libraries. According to female librarians' perceptions, school libraries have a good role in education.

Considering the study findings, it recommends that library activities should be adequately and accurately studied at all stages of study in private schools, especially in the elementary grades 1 to 3, where students learn to develop the students skills of using information resources, scientific research, and stimulate thinking, to allocate a library class within the weekly schedule, the library activities within the curriculum should be implemented and assigning students to accomplish in the library, the website of the electronic system (eduwave) should be updated so that an application interface is given to the digital library which including various information resources available to teachers and students, and there should be a specific curriculum for teaching library education in particular.