

Chuanphit Chumkhong 2010: Development of Information Technology-Based Early Childhood Curriculum. Doctor of Philosophy (Curriculum and Instruction), Major Field: Curriculum and Instruction, Department of Education. Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Somtawil Dhanasobhon, Ed.D. 224 pages.

The purposes of this research were to 1) develop an information technology-based curriculum for early childhood education. 2) examine the implementation results of the developed information technology-based early curriculum for early childhood education.

The research sample comprised participants in curriculum development including 7 administrators, and 71 teachers at Polvittaya School in Had Yai, Songkhla Province. The sample group for the implementation of the developed curriculum was 30 year 1 kindergarten students at Polvittaya School in Had Yai, Songkhla Province in the 2nd semester, academic year 2007. The research procedures involved 1) the collection of websites on the provision of instruction activities -for early childhood education to draft preliminary information for teachers and administrators, 2) the pursuance of contact with the administrators to notify the purposes of the research and present the curriculum developed from the websites as well as to undertake an interview- their needs and opinions on the developed information technology-based curriculum, 3) the analysis of the needs of teachers and administrators, 4) the refinement of the developed curriculum and the organization of learning units in response to the needs of teachers and administrators and standards of childhood education 5) the verification of the developed curriculum by the experts, 6) the teacher training on the curriculum and lesson plan preparation, 7) the verification of the lesson plans developed by the teachers, 8) the implementation of the lesson plans with - year 1 kindergarten, and 9) the report of the research outcomes and conclusions .

It was found that the technology-based curriculum for early childhood education from year 1 to 3 consisted of the websites appropriate to the learning units , learning contents, learning activities, and learning assessment of all 11 learning units. The results of the implementation of an information technology-based curriculum with year 1 kindergarten showed that in addition to the learners' greater development of all four domains namely the development of bodies, minds and emotions, society, and intelligence suitable for their ages, the results from the opinions and suggestions from the administrators, teachers and the parents towards the information technology-based curriculum also indicated that the information technology-based curriculum for early childhood education provided instructional activities through an information technology that enabled learners to become more interested in the studies and eager to learn and made the administrators, teachers, learners and parents recognize the value of searching for more knowledge by means of the Internet.

Student's signature

Thesis Advisor's signature