The Views of Prospective Science Teachers on the Use of Science Centers for Educational Purposes: An Example of Application in Turkey

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Abstract

In this study, the effects of surprising and exciting stimulus fun science experiments, exhibited in the Science and Technology Museum which was founded under the Middle East Technical University, were researched in the aspect of using for the purpose of instruction. For this purpose, the study was carried out by receiving the views of the senior class student's of Kirikkale University Faculty of Education, Science Education. The experiments designed from the 'Hands on Science', aim to convey a lot of physical principles and natural phenomena that we observe in our daily life but not even aware of them, to students in an entertaining environments. Thus, in the study, the views of the teacher candidates on using the activities which are exhibited in the science and technology museum for the instructional purpose are asked. Therefore, semi-structured interview method, often applied, was used in qualitative studies. Interview form consisted of 9 semi-structured questions which contain activities in science center.

Keywords: *Science museum, science teaching, teacher candidates.*