

Improving Teaching Practicum by Relating Learning with Practical Life Skills: An Action Research

By

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Abstract

This article is based on study designed by research network established at Directorate of staff Development (DSD) Lahore. The study was focused to improve the quality of teaching practicum in pre service institutes keeping in view National Professional Standards for Teachers. I decided to select a trainee teacher who needed guidance regarding use of practical life skills and examples during teaching of graphic representation in the area of math to fourth graders. Research was conducted in Government College for Elementary Teachers, GCET (W) H-9 Islamabad, with a prospective teacher of B.Ed. It was a collaborative action research. I talked with prospective teacher in friendly way and told her about the plan to improve the lesson by relating it with practical life skills. I delivered a model lesson before the trainee with good examples from environment to make the relationship with practical life skills. Trainee observed the model lesson and made the notes of her observation. Then she delivered the lesson and I observed the lesson in this way five cycles were made during one month. After each cycle new plan was prepared in the light of observation and reflections, then plan was implemented through action. Student's behavior was observed, their class work and home work were gathered, students interview were made, formative and summative assessments were also given. Expert teacher educators observed the lessons and also gave feedback that prospective teacher delivered the lesson with very good examples of practical life skills and her teaching skills were also improved. The combination of these data sets suggests that teaching learning processes is improved when teacher uses examples from practical life skills.

Keywords: *Prospective Teachers, Teaching Practicum, Practical life skills*