

Research on the Environmental Knowledge and Environmental Awareness of Preschool Teachers

By

¹Güneş Salt, ²Özlem Körükçü, ³Aysel Köksal Akyol

Bozok University, Education Fakulty, Education Sciences Department, Bozok Üniversitesi Eğitim Fakültesi
Erdoğan Akdağ Kampüsü, Atatürk Yolu, 66900 Yozgat, Turkey.

Abstract

The present study aimed to elicit the environmental knowledge and environmental awareness of preschool teachers. The research group of the study was comprised of 130 teachers serving at the independent nursery schools, training nursery school of the vocational school for girls, and nursery classes of primary schools in the province of Yozgat and its towns. Personal Information Form and Environmental Awareness Questionnaire were used as the data collection tools in the study. The Personal Information Form was developed by the researchers. The Environmental Knowledge and Environmental Awareness Questionnaire were used by Schrenk (1994) in Germany and by Erten (2002; 2003; 2005) in Turkey with partial amendments. Relational survey model was implemented in the research. In analyzing the data, Pearson Correlation calculations, parametric (t-test, ANOVA) and non-parametric tests (Kruskal Wallis, Mann-Whitney U Test) were used whether or not variables showed normal distribution. As a result of the research while a weak relation was observed between the Attitudes towards Environment and Environment-Friendly Behaviors ($r=.40$) and between Attitudes towards Environment and Environmental Knowledge ($r=.47$) of preschool teachers; a very weak relationship was found between Environment-Friendly Behaviors and Environmental Knowledge ($r=.25$). It was observed that the environmental awareness of preschool teachers was influenced by taking care of pets and flowers at home and by following daily news together with their friends. Consequently it was determined that the environmental knowledge and attitudes of preschool teachers had no effect of environmental-friendly

Keywords: *Preschool teacher, environmental knowledge. environmental awareness.*