

A SURVEY ON THE BIOLOGICAL COGNITION OF URBAN INSECTS FOR RURAL PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN TAIWAN

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Abstract

The Ministry of Education in Taiwan began to promote the "Digital Rural Care Program" and actively assisted vulnerable children with digital services and information applications since 2005. Most of the rural primary schools are well equipped with electronic whiteboards, computers, tablets and other digital teaching aids. The cumulative value is up to 20 million US dollars. In the aspects of science learning, observation is the first priority learning skill. Our research term was speculated that the nature and open environment (outside of urban area) is helping students to see more and be sensitive to the unknown subjects that are not introduced in text books as yet. Thus, this state of affairs is problematic since we know that students' ability of observation has not turned into the way what we surmised. This study used survey data gathered from 128 students of 4 different rural primary schools (official found) in Taiwan and the questionnaire collected data about students' individual learning behaviors, and cognition on common insects (Silver-fish, Clothing moths, Moths, and Drosophila) in home environment. Quantitative results indicate that students of rural area have low self-observation ability, low interested in biological knowledge and even lack awareness in their rich natural environment. Findings could help teachers or the government to develop more course contents to enhance the observation training and encourage students to engage a life observation and self-learning in the future, without setting up the hardware only.

Keywords: Bioscience Education, Partial Schools, Cognition, Observation, Insects.
