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### **Research on Project-Based Methods in Primary School Science Education**

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#### Abstract

Primary school science education is an important stage in cultivating students' scientific literacy and innovation ability. In the current highly developed social environment of information technology, scientific education methods are also constantly being updated and developed. On the basis of summarizing the research results, this paper proposes suggestions and prospects for future research on primary school science education, emphasizing the importance and application value of project-based educational methods in primary school science education. By adopting project-based educational methods, primary school science education can better promote the improvement of students' scientific literacy, cultivate scientific exploration awareness and practical skills, and thus improve learning effectiveness and interest.

Keywords

Primary school science education Education programs Methods

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### **1.** Overview of primary school science education

#### **1.1.** Course setting

The curriculum design of primary school science education is the foundation of primary school education and an important way to cultivate students' scientific literacy. In terms of curriculum design, primary school science education should focus on the organic combination of scientific knowledge, scientific methods, and scientific thinking <sup>[1]</sup>. The course content should closely integrate students' daily lives and actual situations, cultivate their ability to observe and explain scientific phenomena, and guide them to engage in scientific exploration and practical activities. At the same time, the curriculum of primary school science education should also focus on cultivating students' innovative thinking and hands-on ability, and stimulate their interest and love for science <sup>[2]</sup>.

#### 1.2. Teaching staff

Science teachers are the backbone of primary school science education, and their teaching level and professional competence directly affect the quality and effectiveness of education. The teaching staff of primary school science education should have rich scientific knowledge and teaching experience, be familiar with the theory and practice of science education, and be able to fully emphasize the role of students as the main body, guiding them to engage in scientific practice and exploration activities <sup>[3]</sup>. Teachers should also possess good teaching methods and communication skills, be able to transform abstract scientific knowledge into vivid and interesting teaching activities, and stimulate students' interest and enthusiasm for learning <sup>[4]</sup>.

#### 1.3. Student characteristics

As the main body of science education, the characteristics and needs of primary school students determine the implementation methods and approaches of science education <sup>[5]</sup>. There are differences in cognitive abilities and thinking styles between elementary school students and adults, so science education should focus on teaching according to individual needs and designing teaching content and methods based on students' cognitive level and learning ability. In addition, the learning motivation and interest of primary school students are important factors that determine their learning emotions and achievements <sup>[6]</sup>. Science education should stimulate students' learning interest, improve their learning motivation, cultivate their interest in science, and develop their awareness and ability to explore science.

# 2. Application of project-based educational methods in primary school science education

#### **2.1. Application situation**

Project-based educational methods have a wide range of applications in primary school science education. Schools can guide students to engage in scientific practical activities by organizing projects with different themes <sup>[7]</sup>. In these projects, students will participate in solving practical problems, gain a deeper understanding of scientific principles, and cultivate interest and practical skills in scientific exploration. In the practice of primary school science education, project-based educational methods can be applied to various disciplinary fields. For example, in the field of natural sciences, ecological conservation projects can be carried out to cultivate students' environmental awareness and scientific literacy <sup>[8]</sup>; in the field of physics, designing and creating simple physics experiments can inspire students' innovative thinking and problem-solving skills <sup>[9]</sup>.

In the specific implementation of the project, teachers play a core guiding and organizing role. They need to design and arrange appropriate project tasks based on the actual situation of students and the requirements of subject knowledge, guiding students to think independently and innovate in practice <sup>[10]</sup>. At the same time, teachers should also provide necessary guidance and feedback in a timely manner to help students solve problems and improve learning outcomes.

#### 2.2. Effect evaluation

Through empirical research, the effectiveness of projectbased educational methods in primary school science education can be evaluated. Research has shown that project-based educational methods can better cultivate students' scientific exploration awareness and practical skills and improve learning outcomes and interests<sup>[11]</sup>.

Project-based educational methods can stimulate students' interest in learning. During the implementation of the project, students will face specific problems and challenges, requiring hands-on problem-solving and finding answers. This practical learning method can stimulate students' curiosity and thirst for knowledge and enhance their interest in science and initiative in learning <sup>[12]</sup>.

Other than that, project-based educational methods can improve learning outcomes. Students need to comprehensively apply various subject knowledge and skills in the project to solve practical problems <sup>[13]</sup>. Through this comprehensive learning approach, students can better understand the importance and application value of subject knowledge and improve learning effectiveness and depth <sup>[14]</sup>.

In addition, project-based educational methods can also cultivate students' innovative thinking and problemsolving skills. During the implementation of the project, students need to think independently and collaborate to solve problems, cultivating their innovation awareness and teamwork <sup>[15]</sup>, which is of great significance for students' future learning and employment.

#### 2.3. Key factors

In the implementation process of project-based educational methods, project design and implementation are key factors. Project design needs to consider the actual situation of students and the requirements of subject knowledge, focusing on the practicality and operability of the project <sup>[16]</sup>. Project implementation requires teachers to provide necessary guidance and feedback, guiding students to solve problems and reflect on learning.

In addition, the learning environment and learning resources are also important factors that affect the effectiveness of project-based educational methods. Schools can provide a good learning environment and abundant learning resources to support and guarantee student participation in projects. For example, schools can provide learning venues and equipment such as laboratories and libraries, a wealth of subject books and materials, as well as related learning tools and software <sup>[17]</sup>.

The application of project-based educational methods in primary school science education is of great significance and has positive effects. Through empirical research, this chapter analyzes the specific application and effectiveness of this method in primary school science education and explores the key factors in project design and implementation <sup>[18]</sup>. Project-based educational methods can better cultivate students' scientific exploration awareness and practical skills and improve learning effectiveness and interest. Therefore, the widespread application of project-based educational methods in primary school science education is of great significance and practical value.

# **3.** Analysis of the influencing factors of project-based educational methods in primary school science education

#### 3.1. Student learning interest

Learning interest is an important driving force for students to actively participate in learning, especially for primary school science education. Project-based educational methods stimulate students' interest in learning by providing challenging and practical tasks. Different students have different interests and hobbies, so the factors that affect their learning interests are diverse and complex <sup>[19]</sup>.

The practical application of subject content has a significant impact on students' interest in learning. The project-based educational method combines subject knowledge with practical problem-solving, enabling students to apply the knowledge they have learned in practice. This learning approach can enhance students' awareness of the practicality of knowledge, thereby increasing their interest in learning <sup>[20]</sup>.

The guidance and motivation of teachers are also important factors that affect students' interest in learning. Teachers play the role of guides and motivators in projectbased teaching. They can guide students to think through heuristic questions and provide personalized learning support and timely feedback, thereby stimulating their enthusiasm and interest in participating in learning.

In addition, factors such as the learning environment, personal factors of students, and their attitudes toward science education can also have an impact on their interest in learning. The creation of a learning environment and the influence of personal factors can put students in a positive emotional state, enhancing their interest and desire for learning. The cultivation of students' attitudes and interests toward science education is closely related to multiple environmental factors such as schools, families, and society.

#### 3.2. Academic performance

Academic performance is one of the important indicators for evaluating the learning effectiveness of students, and it is also one of the sources of their own learning motivation. Project-based educational methods have a positive impact on students' academic performance.

Project-based educational methods can provide opportunities for contextualized learning, enabling students to apply the knowledge and skills they have learned in real-life scenarios. This contextualized learning can enhance students' understanding and application of subject knowledge, thereby improving academic performance <sup>[21]</sup>.

Through collaborative learning through projects,

students can collaborate, share ideas and resources, and improve their interaction and communication skills. This collaborative learning approach not only promotes communication and cooperation among students but also enhances their understanding and memory of subject knowledge, thereby improving their academic performance.

#### 3.3. Learning motivation

Learning motivation is the intrinsic motivation for students to participate in learning activities, and it has a significant impact on their learning outcomes. Projectbased educational methods have a significant impact on cultivating students' learning motivation.

#### 4. Conclusion

Through project-based educational methods, primary school science education can better cultivate students' scientific exploration awareness and practical skills and improve learning effectiveness and interest <sup>[22]</sup>. In future development, it is necessary to strengthen the support of educational policies, enrich and develop educational resources, cultivate and develop the scientific literacy and educational skills of teachers, and explore and apply interdisciplinary integrated teaching models. Through continuous exploration and practice, project-based primary school science education methods will bring more possibilities and opportunities for the development of primary school science education.

#### Disclosure statement

The author declares no conflict of interest.

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