THE EFFECTS OF USING MULTIMEDIA TECHNOLOGY ON THE SIXTH GRADE VISUALLY IMPAIRED STUDENTS' LEARNING IN SCIENCE SUBJECT, BHUTAN

BY

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The objective of this study was to find out the effect of using multimedia technology on the sixth grade visually impaired students' learning in science at the National Institute for the Visually Impaired in Bhutan. The design was exploratory case study employing mixed methods. 5 students (2 males and 3 females) in the sixth grade and 11 teachers including science teacher were selected purposively as subjects of the study. Achievement test, daily performance record, questionnaires and inventory checklist were used to collect data. The comparison between learning achievements of the students in this study with their fifth and fourth grade academic achievements was made using descriptive statistics as percentage and means.

The results of the study were as follows: student A and C achieved significantly higher than their achievements of fifth and fourth grades in science. Student B and E achieved in the range of studying without multimedia technology. Student D achieved quite low compared to the achievements made in the fifth and fourth grades. The learning with multimedia technology provided moderate to high level of satisfaction of students. In terms of learning interests, students showed moderate to high interest in learning with multimedia technology. It could be concluded in this study that multimedia technology had effects on the sixth grade visually impaired students' learning in science. The teachers' opinions also supported the use of multimedia technology in teaching the visually impaired in Bhutan.