

## THE ESSENCE OF RESEARCH IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION

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Research is probably one of the areas in the field of education that most teachers considered as a difficult thing to do. It entails a lot of patience that is why some teachers decided not to conduct an investigation or to do research. But do you know that research is necessary in the education, especially in the teaching and learning process?

Research plays an important role in all fields of study. It is the central building block of the entire education system (Digital 360, 2023). Indeed, the product of research is used to run the education system.

Research helps policymakers develop, evaluate, and improve educational practices (Digital 360, 2023). It is essential in formulating new policies. Policymakers can use the results or data from the research as a basis for drafting a policy, procedure, or a guideline to improve practices.

Research offers new ideas and facts that the Department of Education can be used to create new program, trainings for teachers, and intervention for the learners. The results can be used to establish a new program or strategic development program that will benefit the teachers and other concerned parties like school heads and staff.

The results of the research can also be used to prepare a new set of seminars for the teachers and other school personnel. The data from the research can serve as the basis for identifying teachers' needs and strengths. Therefore, the DepEd could provide trainings for the development of the teachers and other school personnel.

Additionally, research is very useful in the teaching and learning process, specifically in the classroom setting. Teacher-researchers can do action research, qualitative research, or quantitative research. Action research is a type of research in which the researchers or teachers identify a classroom-based problem, especially when it comes to learning competency, and then they will think of a possible solution to address the issue. Teacher-researchers will use either a strategy or a learning resource as a possible way to solve the problem, and this will be tested for its effectiveness. In this way, teachers can help students improve their performance in a competency where they are lagging behind. In the website of Sage Publication (2023), teachers can find solutions to the problems arise in their classroom or school through research.

Furthermore, research is also important when investigating social issues that students are dealing like smoking, teenage pregnancy, child labor, and among others. Teachers can conduct qualitative research or a case study on students with confirmed social problems mentioned above. However, in handling this, teachers shall secure an informed consent form from the student-participants and their parents to guarantee the safety of both parties. The results or the accounts of the participants from this kind of a study can be utilized to strengthen school's campaign or program about these issues. Schools can also think of a new intervention or program to help learners overcome their struggles.

The teacher-researchers can also conduct a quantitative study. A quantitative study could present new conclusion or generalization for the study held either for the teachers or learners. The results can be utilized by the district or division to come up with a program or training for the teachers and create new intervention and utilize strategies for the learners.

At the end, teachers cannot escape research. They may not be doing it on their own, but the actions that they are doing inside the classroom are a product of research.

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