

Comparative study of elementary science curriculum and textbooks production of Lao and Japan

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1. Purpose

To comparison contents of science curriculum in both countries; and study textbooks production Processes.

2. Method

To study comparison contents; textbooks procedure and also visiting the Publisher.

3. Result

1) The goal of Science curriculum

In Laos: To develops students' ability to research nature through observations and experimentation. Enhances their understanding of phenomena of the natural world, and lives as part of it and also promotes knowledge, skills, attitudes and values that lead to active participation in their local and the global society.

In Japan: To enable pupils to become familiar with nature and to carry out observations and experiments with their own prospectus, as well as to develop their problem-solving abilities and nurture hearts and minds that are filled with an affection for the natural world, and to develop a realistic understanding of natural phenomena, and to foster scientific perspectives and ideas.

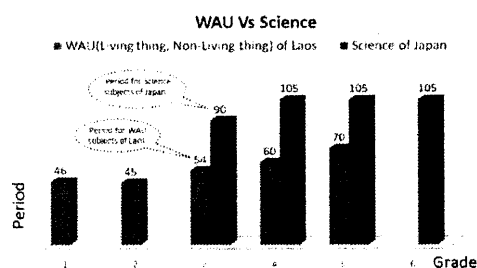
2) Contents of Science Curriculum

In Laos: the content of WAU Curriculum was emphasis Basic Learning Competencies for each grade. Contain 3 parts; the parts are living things, non-living things and Lao PDR (society studies).

In Japan: the contents of science curriculum were emphasis objectives and content for each grade base on topic "mater/energy, and life/earth".

If except "society studies" then compare content with natural science among both countries found the WAU less than science subject of Japan 36 hours per annual in grade 3, and each grade in orderly and also topic "Matter" as energy, and

chemistry are minimal or even considered deficient of science education and input content are placed without considering teaching order and not based on systematic learning order.



3) The textbook Production process

Lao textbooks production by public and screening contents by the Committee for the Approval of Curriculum and Instructional Materials. Teacher must receive training how to use new textbooks. Japanese textbooks production by private companies under condition of MEXT. Books qualify to be used as textbooks at schools only after they has been authorization by MEXT and textbooks are adopted not by each school which is block by prefecture board of education.

4. Conclusion

The Japan science curriculum is abundant base on Science education and providing content is systematic learning order but WAU curriculum is minimal or even deficient as a science education. Japanese textbooks production by private companies. Lao Textbook production by public.

References

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