

Fun Learning with "Magic Maths" for Primary Students: An Action Research

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to determine the effectiveness of a STEM module named "Magic Maths" toward the mastery of multiplication tables among Year 2 students in a Malaysian primary school. This action research was based on Kemmis and McTaggart's model. Instruments used in this study included a set of questionnaires, an interview protocol, reflection and observation field notes on the teaching and learning (T&L) process. Five intervention sessions were conducted to these students. The intervention was eight-week long in which the students learnt to use "Magic Maths" to master multiplication tables 2 to 5 with songs. This method has attracted the students to learn mathematics in a creative and innovative way. Creative and innovative teaching activities could enhance the students' Higher Order Thinking Skills (HOTS). In addition, exploration activities in the CD was found to be useful in enhancing the students' mastery of the multiplication tables through self-exploration. The students were able to "build" multiplication tables 2 to 5 in less than 3 minutes with song as stimulus. The main finding shows that "Magic Maths" has improved the students' achievement of mathematics that being taught. Thus, "Magic Maths" was found to be effective for Year 2 students in enhancing their mastery of the multiplication tables 2 to 5 with fun learning.

Keywords: Action research, mathematics, Magic Maths, primary school, Malaysia