

Difficulties Faced by Science Teachers of the Upper Basic Stage in Using Laboratories in Schools of Bethlehem Governorate

Prepared by: Ra'ida Daifallah Ismail Othman

Supervised by: Dr Ashraf Abu Khayran

Abstract:

This study aimed at revealing the difficulties faced by science teachers of the upper basic stage in using laboratories in schools of Bethlehem Governorate and the relation of these difficulties with the variables of(gender, academic qualification , years of experience and the authority superintending these schools).

The researcher used the descriptive approach to investigate the difficulties faced by science teachers of the upper basic stage concerning the use of laboratories.The study sample consisted of 100 teachers(45 males and 55 females),chosen by the stratified random sampling.The study was conducted in the second term of 2018 /2019 scholastic year.

To achieve the aims of the study , the researcher constructed a questionnaire comprising (35) items, divided into five domains: difficulties relating to the teacher, difficulties relating to the school administration, material difficulties, difficulties pertaining to students and technical difficulties.

The study results revealed that the difficulties faced by science teachers of the upper basic stage in the schools of Bethlehem Governorate in using laboratories were median in all domains.They came in order as follows:difficulties pertaining to students, material difficulties, teacher – related difficulties, technical difficulties and school administration – related difficulties.There were no differences in the difficulties faced by science teachers of the upper basic stage regarding their use of laboratories attributed to the variables of academic qualification and the authority superintending the school, while the study results

indicated differences in the difficulties faced by science teachers pertaining to the variable of gender in favour of females, and to the variable of the number of years of experience in favour of (5 – 10) years.

The researcher recommended organizing training courses for teachers to obtain the experience necessary for conducting lab experiments. She also recommended that the number of the science laboratory classes should be doubled to enable all the students to attend them.