ABSTRACT

An Investigation Into Teachers’ Perceptions of Why Students Are Underperforming in Comprehension at a Rural Primary School [in] North East Trinidad

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This study sought to investigate why students were having problems comprehending reading materials. Data were collected through interviews with three teachers at a primary school in North East Trinidad. The findings revealed six major problems affecting students’ ability to understand text: 1) the need for parental involvement, 2) lack of collaboration among teachers, 3) limited resources, 4) the need for a school reading programme, 5) the need for professional development workshops, and 6) lack of motivation.

**Keywords:** Comprehension; Primary school teachers; Primary school students; Perceptions; Teacher attitudes; rural schools; Reading difficulties; Trinidad and Tobago