

ABSTRACT

An Investigation Into the Motivation to Read Among Tobago Adolescents

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This study explored the reading motivation of a sample of Tobago adolescents in order to discover ways to promote their reading engagement. Constructs such as reading self-concept, self-efficacy, and value of reading were examined. Data were collected through interviews and questionnaires. The results of this case study of 87 students from Forms 1 and 3 of a small rural co-educational Tobago secondary school indicated that: 1) reading self-concept and self-efficacy were higher among the Form 3 students in comparison to their Form 1 counterparts; 2) the students valued reading, although the preferred reading materials were magazines and information from the Internet; and 3) the use of the computer and surfing the Internet were popular activities.

Keywords: Adolescents; Rural schools; Coeducational schools; Student motivation; Student attitudes; Secondary school students; Case studies; Reading interests; Tobago; Trinidad and Tobago