

An investigation of the academic performance and interest of students being taught a unit of
Physics using static illustrations and video.

Liselli Daniel

The University of the West Indies

Curriculum Tutor: Dr. Rawatee Maharaj-Sharma

The Practice of Education

EDTL 5230

April 14th 2016

Abstract

The purpose of this action research was to investigate the academic performance and interest of a group of form 4 students exposed to a unit of work in Physics using static illustrations and video as an intervention. This was done in an attempt to tackle student's poor academic performance and relatively low interest in Physics. This action research was executed with the expectation of it improving the effectiveness of my teaching pedagogy. Before students were taught a unit on Energy they were given a Likert rated student interest questionnaire. They were asked to write journals during the course of the unit and after it was completed. On completion of the unit they were then given a one-shot posttest and a post Likert rated student interest questionnaire. Students displayed a good academic performance and there was an improvement in students' interest in Physics based on summated ratings when video and static illustration were used as an intervention in the Physics unit. There was no significant difference or improvement in student interest at the 5% level. Although this action research had many constraints findings indicate that it is worthwhile to implement.

Keywords: video and static illustrations, academic performance, student interest.