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INFLUENCE OF USE OF MEDIA CENTRE RESOURCES ON STUDENTS' LEARNING OUTCOMES IN SCHOOLS IN JOS NORTH LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF PLATEAU STATE, NIGERIA

Dr. Hungwa Shidi
Benue State University, Makurdi, Nigeria

Ucham James Diyong
University of Jos, Nigeria

Abstract
This paper examined the influence of use of media centre resources on students' learning outcomes in secondary schools in Jos North LGA of Plateau state, Nigeria. The paper adopted descriptive survey design. Purposive and simple random sampling were used to select the population of 285 students of JSSII classes of the 10 selected secondary schools in the study area. A self-structured questionnaire and observation checklist were used to collect data for the study. The data was analyzed using mean scores and standard deviation to answer research questions while Pearson's product moment correlation coefficient was used to test the hypothesis at 0.05 level of significance. It was found that, there are appreciable number of media resources available in the media centres in Jos North LGA. It was also found that, use of the resources have positive influence on learning outcomes and that, use of SMRc significantly influence the students' learning outcomes. Based on the findings of the study, it was recommended that, media centres in Jos North LGA of Plateau State should improve on their acquisition of media resources and allow for full utilization of these resources in different schools to allow for increased learning outcomes.

Keywords: School media resource centres, Media centres, media centre resources, learning outcomes, Jos North

Introduction

School is recognized as a space dedicated to the process of acquiring knowledge. Among the crucial services within the educational framework, library provision stands out as indispensable, spanning across primary, secondary, and tertiary levels. The inclusion of libraries in schools serves to expedite the execution of educational initiatives, facilitating the attainment of educational goals and objectives (Arinde, 2010). School libraries belong to a category of libraries alongside academic, public, and special libraries. Their primary function revolves around the selection, acquisition, organization, and preservation of informational resources, which are then disseminated to students, faculty, and the wider user community within primary and secondary educational settings. These libraries are specifically established within nursery, primary, and secondary schools to address the educational needs of pupils, students, and educators (Shidi, Aju & Ashaver, 2014).

A school library, also known as a School Media Resource Center (SMRCs) or media resource centre, is a facility located within a school where students, staff, and often parents, in both public and private educational institutions, can access a diverse range of resources (Oyetola & Adio, 2020). The primary objective of the school library media center is to ensure that all members of the school community have equal access to books and reading, to information and to information technology. It incorporates various forms of media to achieve this goal. According to Vuzo (2020), the presence of a functional school library offers students additional opportunities for reading, thereby enhancing their knowledge, writing skills, reading comprehension, and clarity of expression.

Both libraries and education are vital components of socialization and the perpetuation of humanity. They are inseparable in fostering the comprehensive development of a child. Education, facilitated by the impartation of knowledge, cultivates abilities, attitudes, behaviors, and technical proficiency. The institution responsible for acquiring, disseminating, and imparting this knowledge is the library. Consequently, the provision of library services is essential and indispensable within the primary and secondary education system. Libraries are established to further the cause of education, with their objectives closely intertwined with those of education itself. Together, they strive to produce intellectually enriched and well-rounded individuals within society using instruction and information technology.

School library resources refer to the equipment and other instructional and study materials in the school library meant for teaching and learning. School library facilities also serve as instructional materials for teaching/learning. Arua and Chinaka (2011) state that school library information facilities are seen as all inputs which are utilized in the library in order to provide good learning environment for students and teachers so as to achieve educational goals. The school library in addition to doing the vital work of individual reading, guidance and development of school curriculum also serves the school as a center for instructional materials. Instructional materials include books, the literature for children, young people and adults, other printed materials, films, recordings and other latest media developed to aid learning. The function of a media resource center is to locate, gather, provide and co-ordinate information resources for learning and the equipment required for use of these materials leading to better learning outcomes. A combination of media centre and information resources base as well as effective use school media centre resources is capable of increasing the learning outcomes of the students. This study therefore investigated the influence of use of school media centre resources on students' learning outcomes in Secondary Schools in Jos North LGA of Plateau State, Nigeria.

Statement of the Problem

The effectiveness of media centre resources (MCRs) cannot be over emphasized but the inability to adequately utilize these resources pose a huge concern to teaching-learning process that is resource based. For the Nigerian child to develop and acquire good learning outcome, media centre resources are supposed to be fully utilized both by

students and their teachers. However, there seems to be challenges facing students learning outcomes as poor performances is observed among some students around Jos North Metropolis which is likely caused by unavailability or ineffective use of MRC's and their resources. The problem of inadequate awareness of school library resources is capable of slowing down the learning process and decreasing learning outcomes.

If appropriate steps are not taken to address this situation, it may lead to a further decrease in the relevance of school media resource centres which could also extend to a total collapse of functional school libraries in Plateau State, Nigeria. In the light of this, the study seeks to evaluate the Influence of Use of Media Centre Resources on Students' Learning Outcomes in public and private secondary schools in Jos North LGA of Plateau State.

Objectives of the Study

The main purpose of the study is to investigate the "Influence of the Use of Media Centre Resources on Students' Learning Outcomes in Secondary Schools in Jos North LGA of Plateau State, Nigeria". Specific objectives of the study are to find out:

i. the Media Resources available to students in secondary schools in Jos North Local Government Area of Plateau State.
ii. the influence of use of Media Centre Resources on students' learning outcomes in secondary schools in Jos North Local Government Area of Plateau State.

Research Questions

1. What are the media resources available to students in schools in Jos North Local Government Area of Plateau State?
2. What is the influence of the use of Media Centre Resources on students' learning outcomes in secondary schools in secondary schools in Jos North Local Government Area of Plateau State?

Hypothesis

Ho1: Use of Media Centre Resources has no significant influence on students' learning outcomes in secondary schools in Jos North Local Government Area of Plateau State, Nigeria.

Literature Review

A school library (or a school library media center) is a library within a school where students, staff, and often, parents of a public or private school have access to a variety of resources (Preston k. Perry 2014). The goal of the school library media center is to ensure that all members of the school community have equitable access "to books and reading, to information, and to information technology." A school library or media resource center uses all types of media like (Igbinlola & Akande, 2016), the media resources necessary to enhance excellent students' academic performance includes books

brochures, handbills, ephemerals and notices. Other materials are non-book materials such as audio materials (discs, phonographic audio-tapes on reel and cassettes), film materials such as slides, film-strips, motion picture films as well as other forms of photographic films. Others are graphics (art prints, pictures, photographs, maps, charts and overhead transparencies), video materials (video tapes on reel, cassettes, cartridges and video disc), accommodation, space, equipment, stationery and staff.

Students that use media centre services often perform better in test and examination than those who are not using such services. Jato (2014) stated that, school media centres have positive impact on student achievement and thus, media centres provide a quiet, well-lit study place and environment that is conducive to mental concentration.

Bernard and Frankwell (2014) carried out a research on the Assessment of Access and Use of School Library Information Resources by Secondary Schools in Morogoro Municipality, Tanzania. The main objective of this study was to assess access and use of library information resources by students of secondary schools in Morogoro Municipal. The study was carried out in five purposefully selected advanced level schools in Morogoro Municipality. Simple random sampling was used to select 30 respondents from each selected school to make a sample size of 150 respondents. The study employed a case study research design and used combination of methods to collect both quantitative and qualitative data. Data was collected both quantitative and qualitative data. Data was collected by using documentary review, questionnaires, interviews and personal observations. Quantitative data was analyzed using mean, while content analysis was adopted for qualitative data. Key findings revealed among others that, the most frequently used library information sources by secondary school students are only books and novels. Other library information resources such as atlas and maps, dictionaries, novels, audio visuals ad poetry were not accessible by students hence those sources were not satisfactory to meet their information needs. The study recommended that adequate provision of fund is necessary for the provision of current and up to date information resources and also for the employment of qualified and trained teacher librarian.

Afolabi and Elaturoti (2016) conducted a research on the topic, School Library Media Resources availability as a predictor of Secondary School Students' Academic Achievement in Social Studies in Ondo State, Nigeria. The study intended to investigate the extent of availability of school library media resources in the school library media centre and how that has contributed to students' achievement in Social Studies in Junior Secondary School in Ondo State. A questionnaire was designed and used to gather information on availability of school library media resources and students' achievement in Social Studies. A descriptive survey method was employed to analyze the results. The findings indicate that media resources are made available in the selected schools from the study area for students, teachers and media specialists respectively and that there was a correlation between availability of media resources and students' achievement in Social Studies. Therefore, it was concluded that school library media resources availability correlated significantly with students' achievement in Social Studies. It was

recommended that establishment of school media centre with relevant media resources be established by government to improve teaching and learning activities. However, why the reviewed study was narrowed to the context of media resources in social studies at the Junior Secondary School level, therefore, the present study will be extended to cover students learning outcomes in other subjects of learning within the categories of Junior and senior classes of the secondary education in Jos North LGA of Plateau State.

Research Methodology

This paper adopted a descriptive survey design. Descriptive survey was considered more suitable design for this study because it enhances the study situations in their natural settings without manipulation of variables, and it also helps in providing a relatively cheap and easy means of collecting large amount of data. The design was also chosen because it enabled the researcher to investigate the influence of use of media centre resources on students' learning outcomes in secondary schools in Plateau State Nigeria. The target population for the study comprised Junior Secondary School Two (JSSII) students in Jos North Local Government Area of Plateau State, Nigeria with a population of one thousand one hundred and thirty-five (1,135) students. Two hundred and eighty-five (285) students were sampled using purposive and Simple Random sampling. The JSSII students were purposively considered appropriate for this study due to their median position in the junior secondary school level and it is believed that they have acquainted and adapted themselves to the junior school environment. The entire population of 285 JSS 2 students in the selected 10 secondary schools (3 public and 7 private) in Jos North LGA of Plateau state Nigeria were reached using a self-constructed questionnaire for the purpose of data collection. The questionnaire was validated and trial tested. Cronbach Alpha statistics used for trial testing yielded an overall reliability coefficient of 0.92 which indicated that, the instrument was highly reliable and was adopted for this study. The instruments were administered to the subjects in their respective schools. The administration of the questionnaires was done by the Researcher with the assistance of some staff of the sampled schools. Data collected were analyzed using mean and standard deviation to answer research questions while Pearson Product Moment Correlation coefficient was used to test hypothesis at 0.5 level of significance.

Data Presentation and Analysis

Data presentation was done in line with research questions.

Research Question One: What are the media resources available to students in secondary schools in Jos North Local Government Area of Plateau State?

Table 1: Mean and standard deviation of responses on media resources available to students in schools in Jos North LGA of Plateau State

S/N	Item	Available	Not Available	Remarks
1	Desktop Computer	90	10	Available
2	Interactive whiteboards	20	80	Not Available
3	Computer assisted materials	20	80	Not Available
4	Almanacs	80	20	Available
5	Maps	100	00	Available
6	Television	70	30	Available
7	Government documents	80	80	Available
8	Atlases	60	40	Available
9	Serials/journals	20	80	Not Available
10	Gazetteers	60	40	Available
11	Slides	20	80	Not Available
12	Dictionaries	100	00	Available
13	Newspapers	80	20	Available
14	Magazines	80	20	Available
15	Periodicals	60	40	Available
16	Reference materials	100	00	Available
17	Manuals	60	40	Available
18	Laptops computers	60	40	Available
19	Audio/visual resources	20	80	Not Available
20	Computer assisted instructional materials	20	80	Not Available

Table 1 indicates that, media resources like desktop computer, almanacs, maps, television, government documents, atlases, gazetteers, dictionaries, newspapers, magazines, periodicals, reference materials, manuals, and laptops computers (representing serial numbers 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18), with percentages of 50 and above are available in the media centres in Jos North LGA. On the other hand, items (2, 3, 9, 11, 19 and 20) representing whiteboards, computer assisted materials, serials/journals, slides, audio/visual resources, and computer assisted instructional materials are media resources that are not available in the media centres in public and private secondary schools in Jos North LGA of Plateau State.

Research Question Two: What is the influence of the use of Media Centre Resources on students' learning outcomes in secondary schools in secondary schools in Jos North Local Government Area of Plateau State?

Table 2: Mean and standard deviation of responses on influence of use of MCRs on students' learning outcomes in secondary schools in Jos North LGA of Plateau State

S/N	Item	Mean	Std. Deviation	Remarks
1	Use of media resources simplifies most lesson concepts for my understanding	3.94	0.23	Agreed
2	It increase/sustain my interest during lessons	3.75	0.43	Agreed
3	It helps me to be more attentive to answer questions in the class	3.65	0.47	Agreed
4	It makes students more committed to lessons	4.00	0.00	Agreed
5	It enhances my participation in the lessons	3.84	0.36	Agreed
6	It helps me to develop personal study skills	4.00	0.00	Agreed
7	It motivates me during lessons	3.98	0.11	Agreed
8	It encourages me to practice during lessons	3.87	0.32	Agreed
9	It provides me with basis for competence	3.98	0.11	Agreed
10	Use of different media resources broadens my learning abilities	4.00	0.00	Agreed
	Total	**3.90**	**0.20**	**Agreed**

Table 2 presents responses of 10 items to derive information on the influence of use of media centre resources on students' learning outcomes in secondary schools in Jos North LGA of Plateau state. Data showed that all these items have mean values above 2.5 benchmark indicating respondents' expression that use of MCRs influence students' learning outcomes in secondary schools in Jos North LGA of Plateau State. Since the mean values for these items were above the 2.5 set value therefore, it further indicate that respondents are of the opinion that use of media resources helps to; simplify lesson concepts for students understanding, increase/sustains students interest during lessons, helps student's to be more attentive to answer questions in the class, makes students more committed to lessons, enhances students participation in the lessons, helps students to develop personal study skills, motivates students during lessons, encourages students to practice during lessons, provides students with basis for competence, and also broadens students learning abilities especially public and private secondary school students in Jos North LGA of Plateau State. The finding above shows that use of media resources has positive influence on students learning outcomes in secondary schools in Jos North LGA of Plateau State.

Hypothesis One: There is no significant influence of the use of Media Centre Resources on students' learning outcomes in secondary schools in Jos North Local Government Area of Plateau State**.**

Table 3: Chi-square analysis of the influence of the use of Media Centre Resources on students' learning outcomes in secondary schools in Jos North Local Government Area of Plateau State

Responses	Observed	Expected	Residual	P	df	x^2 Cal.	Decision
A	17	142.5	-125.5	0.000	1	221.056[a]	Sig.
SA	268	142.5	125.5				
Total	**285**						

In the analysis of Table 3, it shows that the value of chi-square calculated at 1 degree of freedom is 221.056[a] with a p-value of 0.00. Since the p-value of 0.00 is less than the set alpha value of 0.05. Therefore, the null hypothesis stating that there is no significant influence of the use of Media Centre Resources on students' learning outcomes in secondary schools in Jos North Local Government Area of Plateau State is not accepted. Therefore, we accept the alternative hypothesis inducing that there is a significant influence of the use of Media Centre Resources on students' learning outcomes in secondary schools in Jos North Local Government Area of Plateau State.

Discussion of Findings

From analysis of this research, media resources such as desktop computer, almanacs, maps, television, government documents, atlases, gazetteers, dictionaries, newspapers, magazines, periodicals, reference materials, manuals, and laptops computers are available in these media centres whereas resources such as interactive whiteboards, computer assisted materials, slides, and audio/visual resources are grossly inadequate and requires to be provided in those media centres for utilization by students to bring the desired improvement in the learning outcomes of the students in Jos North LGA of Plateau State. This finding conforms to findings of **Tofi and Onuminya (2019) that** *textbooks, newspapers, novels and magazines were the common library resources found in the school libraries. Findings of this study also agree with* Bernard and Frankwell (2014) that the most frequently used library information sources by secondary school students are only books and novels. Other library information resources such as atlas and maps, dictionaries, novels, audio visuals and poetry were not accessible by students.

Result of findings in research question two revealed that the use of media resources has positive influence on students learning outcomes in secondary schools in Jos North LGA of Plateau State. This finding agreed with Igbinlola and Akande (2016) who found that provision of MRs in MRCs helps students to read extensively after class and also to do assignments given to them. It also allows teachers to prepare their lesson notes and also shows that students, who make use of the media resource centre well, improve better in their academic performance.

The result of findings in hypothesis revealed that the use of Media Centre Resources had positive influence on students' learning outcomes in secondary schools in Jos North Local Government Area of Plateau State. The result of findings of this study is in line with

the study of Igbinlola and Akande (2016) which found that students who make use of the media centre resources performed better than their counterpart who do not have access to media centre resources.

Conclusion

Use of media resources is highly essential as it gives students the requisite knowledge requirement desired of any educated person. The importance of these media resources has made it a task for its mandatory inclusion in the media centres in all school settings. An opinion from findings of this study is that media resources are very vital tools to students learning outcomes; as such adequate use of these resources by the students is of essence as far as students' learning is concerned. The study therefore concludes that the use of media centre resources have a positive significant influence on the students learning outcomes in secondary schools in Jos North LGA of Plateau State.

Recommendations

Based on the findings of this study, the following recommendations were made:

1. Media resources like interactive whiteboards, computer assisted materials, serials/journals, slides, audio/visual resources, and computer assisted instructional materials should e made available for schools in Jos north LGA as they are considered not to be available in the schools.
2. Given the importance of media centres to the overall development of the students, it is imperative for all school establishments to create media centres to give their students that sense of useful development, therefore there should be an advocacy for establishment of more media centres in both public and private secondary schools to enable students achieve that height of attaining all the educational domains such as the cognitive, affective as well as the psychomotor domain.

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