

WHAT IS ACTION RESEARCH?

Action Research is a process in which participants examine their own educational practice systematically and carefully, using the techniques of research. (Watts, 1985, p.118)

Practitioners' (teachers') research

- The process by which practitioners attempt to study their problems
- Guide, correct and evaluate their decision and actions
- Studying problem by part-owners
- To take decision for improving their current practices
- E.g. constructive change in school
- Origin: human organization theory
- Task and relationship centered
- Capacity to solve problems and take decisions

Definition and meaning of action research

Organized investigative activity to change:

- Studying practical problems of education
- Finding out a practical solution current problems
- The practitioner can only study his problems
- Improve and modify the current practices
- Both individual and group problems
- Mainly an applied research
- A kind of personal research

Steps in action research

Organized investigative activity to change

- Selection of problem

- Formulation of Hypotheses
- Design of research (sampling and methodology)
- Collection of data (administration of tool and scoring)
- Analysis of data (use of statistics)
- Formulation of conclusions

A framework of action research project

Framework and paradigm of AR project

- Identification of problem
- Defining and delimiting the problem
- Analysing causes of the problem
- Formulating the action hypotheses
- Design for testing the action hypothesis
- Conclusions of action research project
- Working topic
- Objectives
- System of the project work
- Evaluation of the project
- Estimation of expenditure
- (Sampling) institution, students/teachers
- Facilities involved
- Now start your research study

Suggestions for an action research project

- Determine the nature of the project
- Developmental or experimental
- Direct associated with the problem

- Real problem
- Plan well regarding schoolwork
- Direct connection with qualitative improvement
- Performance of the students
- Evaluate objectively(reliable and valid tools)
- The action hypotheses should be formulated by considering the causes of the problem
- Under the approach of the teacher or worker
- The design of Action Research project should be economical from money, time and energy
- The problem should be selected objectively and studied scientifically
- The causes of the problem should be isolated objectively on the basis of some evidences