

21ST CENTURY SKILLS AND ACADEMIC SUCCESS OF THE STUDENT

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ABSTRACTS

The changing needs of individuals and societies necessitate renewal and development in the field of education as well as in every field. Based on this requirement, countries first aim to prepare a more effective and applicable teaching-learning environment for students by updating their curricula. 21st century skills are skills that are important for students to acquire and develop, as they include competencies and competencies required in every aspect of an individual's life. This research aims to reveal the relationship between 21st century skills and student achievement. For the purpose of the research, the relevant literature was searched and the relationship between the two concepts was revealed. Studies show that 21st century skills are an important element that increases the academic success of students.

Keywords: 21st century skills, academic achievement, student

Introduction

One of the most important aims of education is to provide students with various skills in order to facilitate their daily lives and to prepare them for life and the business world (Trilling & Fadel, 2009). In today's world, there are different developments in many areas of education and technology. Since the 1980s, developments in the field of information and communication accelerated competition and cooperation (Kaya, 2017).

While it is known that the need for problem solving, critical thinking, information literacy and global awareness skills has been constantly present since the first periods of human history, these skills are needed more in the 21st century (Rotherham & Willingham, 2009). Although it is argued that there is no significant change in the skills that people need, it is stated that the skills have changed in terms of meaning and scope.

Educators should prepare their students for the rapidly changing world and the society in which they live, and within this, they will continue to work in the 21st century. teach their skills to their students. 21st century The training of skills should not be added to the lessons, but integrated into every subject (Larson & Miller, 2011). One of the main duties of teachers is to prepare students for a participatory and global world based on living, learning, working life and technology (Lemke, 2010). Studies conducted in the 21st century. It was aimed to determine what their skills were. Accordingly, in the 21st century. skills, critical thinking, problem solving, questioning, access to information, analysis and synthesis, communication, innovation, creativity, curiosity, imagination, ethical decision making, quick decision making, adaptability, flexibility, universal citizenship, intercultural interaction, cooperation , entrepreneurship, self-management, productivity, responsibility and leadership skills.

In the modern education system, teachers are held responsible for choosing the most appropriate teaching method in which learning will be provided. With these methods, it is aimed to increase academic success by ensuring active participation of students in classes (Yücel & Kanyılmaz, 2018). According to Xin (2003), academic success is explained by the level of gains that students get from the courses they attend. The indicator of academic excellence is to be successful. In the literature review, 21st century. It has been determined that there are various studies that show that academic achievement is related to academic achievement (Turiman et. al., 2012).

The purpose of this research is to investigate the relationship between the use of 21st century skills and the academic achievement of students.

21st Century Skills

In today's understanding of education, it is no longer just to give information to students directly, but rather the ways that students should discover to access information, how and where they should use information, and studies are carried out on this (Kalemkuş, 2020).

Different theories and models have been synthesized in order to raise the individuals needed in the 21st century and to meet the national characteristics and needs (Silva, 2009). The acquisition of 21st century skills is extremely important both nationally and internationally. While the acquisition of these skills can enable students

to compete in the global market in the future and to develop active coping methods with problems, it helps to develop positive attitudes towards being productive individuals (Pratiwi et. al., 2018).

According to the framework called P21 (Partnership for 21st Century Skills) created by different institutions, organizations and companies working together in the USA; students must have in order to be successful in working life and in daily life. These skills are as follows:



Figure 1. Required Skills for Students According to the P21 Framework (Partnership For 21st Century Skills, 2019).

21st century skills; It consists of ways of thinking, ways of working, tools of work and integration into the world. ways of thinking; creativity and openness to innovations, using learning strategies, problem solving, critical thinking and decision making sub-categories. Communication skills and teamwork are the ways of working. Working tools consist of information and technology literacy, integration into the world consists of life and career awareness, universal and local citizenship, and social responsibility awareness categories (Çepni, 2018).

Academic success

While explaining academic success, all behavioral changes of individuals except psychomotor and affective developments are taken into consideration. When it comes to success in education, it comes to mind that the grades obtained by the students as a result of the exams are high and that these grades are appreciated by the teachers (Tooley & Borfreundl, 2013). Academic success is taken as an important criterion in students' behavioral acquisitions and seen as an important factor in transitioning to a higher education institution and professional life (York, Gibson & Rankin, 2015).

The success of the students affects their commitment to the school. While successful students have higher levels of school engagement, unsuccessful students may experience dropouts from school. While some of the factors that determine academic success are related to the student, some of them are related to factors other than the student. The intense interest of the environment or family towards the student increases the success in some cases, while in some cases it decreases the success (Fonseca, 2011).

21st century Skills and Academic Success

Academic success; It is determined by demonstrating skills, cognitive competence and classroom performance. It is a very important fact that students' performance can be measured accurately (Saavedra & Opfer, 2012). In the measurement and evaluation of the current level of success, the ways of determining the place of the students in the group or observing the individual progress of each student are preferred. In this process, there is no output

that can give information about the self-knowledge and development of the students. Students' grades are generally shaped by exams and teachers' opinions (Eisenhower, Baker, & Blacher, 2007).

Measuring academic success involves a more difficult and complex process than all students taking the same exam and getting a high score. Making individual evaluations according to the progress of each student will give more positive results. For this reason, the development of students should be constantly monitored and the development should be revealed more clearly with applications such as rubrics, performance tasks and checklists. In addition, taking into account the situations that affect the motivation and readiness level of the students, spreading the assessment over a period rather than a single exam will enable more accurate measurements to be made (Kuh et. al., 2010).

21st century skills include the skills necessary for students to be successful in daily life, school and work life by providing the blending of knowledge. Students who are assertive and have the ability to manage themselves can manage their goals and time, while they can set their own goals and success criteria. In addition, while they can create short and long-term goals, they have the awareness of commitment to lifelong learning with the ability to work independently (Ledward & Hirata, 2011).

Conclusion and Recommendations

While basic knowledge and skills of people are necessary for literacy, literacy is also necessary for individuals to reach competence. Considering that people's knowledge is constantly increasing, it is inevitable that there will be changes in the meaning of the skill. In this case, it shows that skills cover complex mental processes and that they need to be developed (Ball, Joyce & Anderson-Butcher, 2016). Educators should prepare their students for the rapidly changing world and the society they live in. In this, 21st century skills should be taught to students. The education of 21st century skills should not be added to the lessons, but integrated into every subject. One of the main duties of teachers is to prepare students for a participatory and global world based on living, learning, working life and technology (Lemke, 2010; Larson & Miller, 2011).

It is necessary to develop the skills of students in order to reveal their potential. With the development of skills, the potential of the students will also be developed, so that they will be better prepared for school and social life and future business life. Skills are seen as an important element that increases the academic success of students.

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