

Increasing the Student Problem Solving and Critical Thinking Skills Through Problem Based Learning in Nonformal and Early Childhood Education Department, YSU Postgraduate Program

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to find out: 1) how students' problem solving and critical thinking skills before the implementation of the Problem Based Learning ?; 2) how is the application of the Problem Based Learning Method to improve problem solving skills ?; 3) how effective is the Problem Based Learning model in improving problem solving skills?

This study uses a quantitative approach experimental design. The type of experiment used is a quasi experiment. The research subjects were postgraduate students of NFE and ECE Department. The data collection tool used is a questionnaire. Data analysis using quantitative analysis to determine the effectiveness of the use of the problem based learning method in improving problem solving skills.

The results of the study show that: 1. Critical thinking skills and problem solving are still varied and most are in the low and medium category; 2. The problem-based learning method applied refers to the philosophical, psychological and learning theories that fit the characteristics of students, learning strategies emphasize analytical and problem-solving efforts on cases presented in lectures and in the field; 3. Problem-based learning methods effectively improve critical thinking skills and student problem solving.

Kata Kunci: critical thinking, problem based learning, problem solving skills, student