



## Introduction

Innovative research is essential in maintaining the relevance of education into a continuously evolving society. Hence, the *Alipato*, A Journal for Basic Education, continues to strive in providing a forum for academicians and researchers who are enthusiastic in promoting innovations in basic education. Annually, it publishes an issue to share scholarly researches that could help develop more effective and meaningful teaching and learning experiences for both educators and learners.

The 2018 issue of *Alipato* features eight articles that cover diverse themes in basic education.

The first two articles provide insights about the integration of technology in enhancing the literacy skills of learners.

Jonalou S. Danao conducted a multiple cases study involving six kindergarten children to investigate their use of e-books in directed reading lessons and book orientation behaviors, specifically book handling and story reading. After they were exposed to a series of Directed Reading Lessons (DRL) with alternate use of print and e-book formats of storybooks, she observed an increase in the number of book handling behaviors of the students when presented with print books. Thus, she recommended the use of e-books in developing the reading skills of young learners.

Ma. Angelie A. Millanes, Edwhena Elinore S. Paderna, and Elenita N. Que conducted an experimental study among Grade 9 students to determine the effect of integrating podcasts episodes in teaching Physics concepts on the level of ICT literacy skills of the learners. The result of the ICT Literacy Skills Inventory (ICTLSI) made by the researchers proved that podcasting is effective in enhancing the students' level of ICT literacy skills.

The next two articles focus on the factors affecting students' behavior.

Maria Ronelli S. Espina performed a correlational study among 269 public high school students and 173 private high school students to find out the factors influencing their pro-environmental consumer behavior. She found that age and school type were significant factors affecting the pro-environmental consumer behavior of students.

Khristian Ross P. Pimentel and Maria Vanessa P. Lusung-Oyzon did a mixed methods study to investigate the goal orientation and motivation of 398 Grade 9 students in English and Mathematics. They found that learners are driven by mastery goals. Aside from this, they identified internal and contextual

factors influencing students' goal orientations, learning outcomes, and interests.

The fifth article is related to Filipino students' awareness of the Association of the Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). Brenson Y. Andres conducted a descriptive survey research among 130 junior high school students to find out the state of ASEAN awareness of Filipino students and to develop promotional strategies from the suggestions of the respondents. The results gathered through the structured survey questionnaire implied that Filipino students have a low ASEAN awareness. To address this concern, he suggested four ways to promote ASEAN awareness to the Filipino youth.

The sixth article focuses on the health content areas and life skills that are reflected in the local children's storybooks. In the purposive survey and content analysis done by Rhodora Formento Ereño, she found that majority of the health content areas and core life skills are integrated in the coded local children's storybooks while health content standards for Grades 3 and 4 are only somewhat evident. To create a more appropriate and relevant reading materials for the young learners, she recommended collaboration among health professionals, storybook writers, and publishers.

The last two articles provide insights regarding basic education curriculum.

Romina Beltran-Almazan examined the significant transformations of the Elementary Art Education curriculum from 1982 to 2013 and the factors that influenced it. She found that changes done in the curriculum have been influenced by Constitutional policies and mandates. In addition, improvements in pedagogy and content are driven by factors brought about by evolving socio-cultural perspectives, educational breakthroughs, technological advancements, and researches on the teaching and learning process.

Joel C. Javiniar conducted a single case study in a public school implementing the Arabic Language and Islamic Values Education (ALIVE) to find out Muslim parents' perceived proper formal education for their children. Based on the interviews with the 10 Muslim Filipino parents, a holistic education that will develop their children to become productive citizens and good Muslims is what they desire.

It is hoped that these eight articles continue to inspire and challenge the academicians and researchers to conduct studies and disseminate their findings in *Alipato, A Journal of Basic Education*.

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