A STUDY OF PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN PRESCHOOLERS’ ACADEMIC WORK IN DANDORA EDUCATIONAL ZONE OF NAIROBI COUNTY, KENYA

LYDIA GESARE ONDIEKI

A Research Project Submitted in Partial Fulfillment for the Award of Masters Degree in Early Childhood Education in the Department of Educational Communication and Technology, College of Education and External Studies

University of Nairobi
December, 2012
ABSTRACT
This study is focused on the role of parental involvement in preschooler’s academic work in Dandora Educational Zone of Nairobi County. The main objectives were; finding out the relationship between parental participation in preschool activities and preschooler’s performance, influence of home-tutoring on performance, role of parents in modeling children’s desired behavior on performance and how arranging for appropriate study time and space affects academic performance of preschoolers.

The instruments used in collection of data included analysis of records, questionnaires and interview schedules. Pearson’s correlation coefficient was also employed in determining the relationship between parental participation in various activities and preschooler’s performance.

The study found out that the various preschool activities that parents participate included; meeting attendance, communication with the school and volunteering influenced the academic performance of preschoolers. The study also concluded that home tutoring activities such as motivating children and helping children with school work such as reading, colouring and number work affect the academic performance of preschoolers. It was also seen that parents cultivate the desired behavior of their children through either punishment, rewards and other methods of disciplining children to ensure that they become better performers in school and in life. Finally, the study concluded that arranging for appropriate study time and space contributes to the better performance of the preschoolers.