

Problem Solving Ability of Middle School Students in Science Learning

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Abstract

This study examined the level of problem solving ability of middle school students (grade 6 to grade 9) in science learning. A total of 230 middle school students were randomly selected from 2 High Schools and 2 Middle Schools in Ayeyarwaddy Division. A problem solving ability test was used in this study. It involved 118 items which are the items of school science problem solving ability from middle school science course and the items of real life science problem solving ability.

The result provided the differences of problem solving ability with respect to grade level and gender also. There was relationship between the school science and that real life science problem solving ability. This result pointed out that the concepts and principles related to middle school science learning are essential to apply in the real life situations. Therefore, science problem solving ability applied in real life situations should be invoked and emphasized in the middle school science curriculum.

Keywords: problem solving ability, science learning, middle school level

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