



A Selection of Seminal Research Work which has influenced

EDUCATION POLICY AND CURRICULA

UWI Mona's Influence on A Regionally Implemented Primary Level Assessment of Literacies

Policy Influenced:

The Primary Exit Examination introduced by the Caribbean Examinations Council

Year Implemented: 2012

Objective of the Policy:

A study by Professor Stafford (Lead Consultant) and Professor Zellynne Jennings-Craig (Team Member) was undertaken to assist the Caribbean Examinations Council (CXC) to define the literacies that should be developed and assessed by the end of primary school.

Summary:

In their report, the researchers suggested that the focus at the primary school level should be on the development of critical literacies to curb the increasing content demands and to improve the adequacy of the preparation for the transition to secondary education.

They pointed out that students need to enter secondary school with competencies that will assist them to start, and remain, on track in the critical areas of the secondary school curriculum. They argued that a focus on critical literacies at the primary school level will provide the foundation for students to make that transition much easier.



Based on the analysis of data collected from 15 CXC participating countries, the researchers elaborated on the embedded literacies, or underlying skills and competencies, for each of the four major subjects generally assessed in end of primary school examinations in Caribbean countries - Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies.

The researchers recommended that a proposed common primary school exit examinations should focus on assessment of these literacies.

Impact of the Policy on Education:

Acting on the recommendations of the study, CXC developed the Caribbean Primary Exit Assessment (CPEA) which is already being offered in a number of Caribbean countries. It is expected that the CPEA will facilitate portability of end of primary school qualifications across Caribbean countries.



Reference

- Chevannes, Barry, Sophia Morgan and Tony Sewell. Griffith, S. A. & Jennings-Craig, Z. (2010). Study of a Proposed Regional Primary School Exit Examination to be Developed by the Caribbean Examinations Council, pp. 159.