Role of the Edmodo and Quia Platform on Enriching of Teaching - Learning Process in Special Education

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Abstract

The purpose of this study was to determine role of the Edmodo and Quia Platform on enriching of teaching - learning process in special education. The statistical society comprised teachers of students with special educational needs. Fifty-four teachers of students with special educational needs were selected from the Exceptional Education Office of Tehran Province, Iran, as samples. The data gathering tool was a questionnaire of 7 items that was created according to 7 point Likert scale. Findings from the viewpoint of teachers showed that the Edmodo and Quia Platform has a great role on enriching of teaching - learning process of students with special educational needs.

Key Words: Teaching –learning process, innovative strategies, Edmodo and Quia platform, special education
1. Introduction

New media and new technologies have changed the fundamental nature of teaching-learning process. They have made possible learning activities that were not previously practical or feasible. One of these media and technologies is Edmodo and Quia platform.

Edmodo is an educational technology company offering a communication, collaboration, and coaching platform to K-12 schools and teachers. The Edmodo network enables teachers to share content, distribute quizzes, assignments, and manage communication with students, colleagues, and parents. Edmodo is very teacher-centric in their design and philosophy: students and parents can only join Edmodo if invited to do so by a teacher. Teachers and students spend large amounts of time on the platform, both in and out of the classroom.

Quia is short for Quintessential Instructional Archive. Quia provides a wide variety of tools, including: Templates for creating 16 types of online activities using your own content, a complete online testing system with automatic grading, immediate feedback, and detailed reporting, online surveys for gathering student and teacher feedback, a class Web page creator to share Quia activities and class announcements with students and parents, access to millions of shared activities and quizzes in over 300 categories. Quia is offering educational practice for K-12 students. The company also provides analytical tools to track student and classroom performance and identify areas for academic improvement with each student. It offers practice skills for math, English language arts, science, social studies, and Spanish.

Clearly, there is great potential to use media and technology to improve learning, performance, and instruction. The design of learning activities in a learning environment or situation is critical for the development of knowledge and understanding (Bransford, Brown, & Cocking, 2000; Jonassen and Land, 2012).

2. Literature Review


Various researchers have noted that despite the abundance of studies on the digital and online technologies, there are limited studies investigating learning through blended learning approach among students with special educational needs (Gerich & Fellinger 2012, Cuculick 2014, Gregor 2014, Hill 2015, Oywewumi et al. 2015, Kozuh et al. 2015, Saunders 2016, Toofaninejad et al. 2017).

3. Methodology

3.1 Research Questions

As indicated in introduction, the study therefore addresses the following research question:
What is role of the Edmodo and Quia Platform on enriching of teaching - learning process in special education?

3.2 Modeling Volatility

In this paper, we used the blended learning approach provides for teachers and students to integrate computer and network-based activities to enrich environment of their teaching –learning process.

3.3 Data

In this study, to determine the role of Edmodo and Quia on enriching of teaching - learning process of students with special educational needs, a descriptive survey method was used. The statistical society comprised teachers of students with special educational needs. Fifty-four teachers of students with special educational needs were selected from the Exceptional Education Office of Tehran Province, Iran, as samples. The data gathering tool was a questionnaire of 7 items that created according to 7 point Likert scale. The validity of the questionnaire was evaluated by experts and its reliability was 0.98 with Cronbach's alpha.

4. Results and Discussion

Table 1 shows the role of Edmodo and Quia on enriching of teaching - learning process of students with special educational needs. Findings from the viewpoint of teachers showed that the Edmodo and Quia platform has a great role on teaching - learning process of students with special educational needs.

Table 1: Table Distribution Frequency of the Role of Edmodo and Quia on Enriching of Teaching - Learning Process of Students with Special Educational Needs

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<th>Row</th>
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SD = Strongly disagree, D = Disagree, SWD = somewhat disagree, NAD = Neither agree or disagree, SA = Somewhat agree, A = Agree, SA = Strongly agree

As showed in the Table 1:

- 74.1% of the teachers believed that the Edmodo and Quia platform can enrich the learning activities in teaching - learning process of students with special educational needs (51.9% strongly agree + 22.2% agree).
- 68.5% of the teachers believed that the Edmodo and Quia platform can enrich the content in teaching - learning process of students with special educational (46.3% strongly agree + 22.2% agree).
- 72.2% of the teachers believed that the Edmodo and Quia platform can enrich the method in teaching - learning process of students with special educational (46.3% strongly agree + 25.9% agree).
- 72.2% of the teachers believed that the Edmodo and Quia platform can enrich the media in teaching - learning process of students with special educational (50% strongly agree + 22.2% agree).
- 70.4% of the teachers believed that the Edmodo and Quia platform can enrich the learning environment in teaching - learning process of students with special educational needs (51.9% strongly agree + 18.5% agree).
- 74.1% of the teachers believed that the Edmodo and Quia platform can enrich the evaluation method in teaching - learning process of students with special educational needs (46.3% strongly agree + 27.8% agree).
- 64.8% of the teachers believed that the Edmodo and Quia platform can enrich the learning goals in teaching - learning process of students with special educational needs (44.4% strongly agree + 20.4% agree).

5. Conclusions and Recommendations

Findings from the viewpoint of teachers showed that the Edmodo and Quia platform has a great role on enriching of teaching - learning process of students with special educational needs. Therefore, it is suggested that to use the Edmodo and Quia platform as innovative media and technology for students with special educational needs.

References


