

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Ministry of Higher Education
Al-Imam Muhammad ibn Saud Islamic University
Faculty of Social Sciences – Riyadh



Developing the Content of the Science Syllabus for the Primary School Stage in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the light of Modern Global Trends

**A thesis submitted to the Department of Education,
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Thesis Abstract

The study, entitled " Developing the Content of the Science Syllabus for the Primary School Stage in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the light of Modern Global Trends " aims to:

- 1- Identify the status quo of the content of the Science syllabus for the primary school stage in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in light of the standard content evaluation which the researcher derived from the educational research literature, from the standpoint of science teachers and supervisors at the primary school stage;
- 2- Set up a standard for evaluation of the content of the Science syllabus for the primary school stage in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the light of modern global trends;
- 3- Identify the strengths and weaknesses in the content of the Science syllabus for the primary school stage in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the light of the application of the proposed standard;
- 4- Develop a scenario for the development of the content of science syllabus at the primary stage of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the light of modern global trends.

To identify the status quo of the content, the researcher has used the descriptive survey approach, and for the purpose prepared a questionnaire which has been applied to a sample of (75) educational supervisors and (357) teachers of Science in the Kingdom, and the descriptive analytical approach (method of content analysis) to analyze the content. All Science textbooks for the primary school stage have been analyzed based on a standard specially prepared for this purpose in the light of modern global trends.

The findings of the study of evaluating and analyzing the content of the Science syllabus for the primary school stage in the Kingdom, have revealed the following:

First: The study of the status quo of the Science syllabus content (Student' Book and Teacher's Book) from the viewpoint of supervisors and teachers of science:

- 1- Both the supervisors and teachers of science at the primary school stage in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia emphasize that the student' books science for the primary school stage meet many significantly good and desirable advanced qualities;
- 2- Both the supervisors and teachers of science at the primary school stage in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia emphasize that the teacher's books science for the primary school stage meet many significantly good and desirable advanced qualities;
- 3- A significant improvement in the presented updated science books (which were applied in 1419 AH) for the primary school stage in the

Kingdom, compared to the previous books, from the viewpoint of supervisors and science teachers.

Second: Analytical study of the content in accordance to the standard of the modern global trends:

A - Strengths of the textbooks:

- 1- science textbooks for primary school stage largely meet most of the standards of characteristics and methods of content organization and presentation according to the modern trends;
- 2- About 95% of the modern global trends are achieved at a percentage higher than the average (acceptable, good, very good, and excellent) in the textbooks for the fourth and fifth grades;
- 3- About 88% of the modern global trends are achieved at a percentage higher than the average (acceptable, good, very good, and excellent) in the textbooks for the second, third and sixth grades;
- 4- The trend towards "reducing detail in the content" is achieved at an excellent rate; the trend towards "improvement of the of students capacity) at a very good rate; the trend towards (helping students acquire the skills of scientific study, attention to environmental education, attention to scientific issues related to science, technology and society and the environment, and presenting the science's inquisitive nature, and the development of self-learning skills) at a good rate; and the trend towards (scientific interest in culture) at an acceptable rate at the level of the stage
- 5- modern global trends are achieved at the level of science books sections at a higher rate on the themes of books, followed by activities and experiences, graphics and shapes, and inner evaluation.