Recreational facilities and secondary school students academic performance in Kwara State, Nigeria

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Abstract

The study investigated the relationship between Recreational Facilities and students Academic Performance of Secondary Schools in Kwara State, Nigeria. The study was a correlation survey type. Stratified random sampling technique was used to select 1200 respondents comprising of the principals, Vice-principals, class teachers, core subject teachers. The research instrument used was Recreational Facilities Questionnaire (RFQ) and students academic performance format (SAPF). The instrument for was validated by the experts. Split-half reliability method was used to determine the reliability index of .67 after subjected to spearman ranking order statistics. Pearson product moment correlation statistics was used to test all the three operational hypotheses at 0.05 significance level. The findings however revealed that high positive significant relationship exist between recreational facilities availability, utilization, improvisation and and students academic performance of secondary schools in Kwara State Nigeria. It was therefore recommended that government, non-governmental agencies and private sectors should come to the aid of secondary schools in the provision of recreational facilities in the interest of effective teaching learning process and positive students academic performance in Kwara State Nigeria.

Keywords: Recreational facilities, students' academic performance.

Introduction

Education is universally acceptable as an essential tool for national transformation and development. The fundamental purpose of education

is to empower people with the necessary skills, value and attitudes needed to improve their quality of life, to enhance high productivity and developing their intellectuals needed to meet up with the global challenges. Gbadamosi{1999}noted that the ability to learn new skills and particulate effectively become is therefore essential for human capacity building for national socio- economic development.

Ogundele (2007) also observed that everyone has right to education, and it is a social responsibility that everybody should enjoy as member of the society. Federal Republic of Nigeria[2004] however ranked education high among other sectors in the country. Every parent wants quality assurance in their children education. They also regarded education as major way of instilling a sense of direction and purpose. In a research conducted by Olutola (1998) he found that the teachers and students are more influenced by their physical environment. Olutola however noted that good teaching materials drain student energies to influence effective student's academic performance. It should be noted that no amount of adaptation would compensate adequate facilities in maximizing teaching learning experience.

Ogungbemi (2004) observed that children learn best when they can actively explore an environment that is rich in materials. In the school environment, the available education facilities include school plants, which comprise semi-structure and structures that are put in place towards enhancing effectives learning processes. Educational facilities are recreational facilities are sporting facilities like indoor, outdoor games, simulation and games, tourism. There are methods that are used to complement the use of recreational facilities for effective teaching learning process in the school system, such methods include; play way, experimentation, dramatization, demonstration and questioning .It should be noted that any type of recreational activities and methodologies adopted demand effective use of recreational facilities.

Recreational facilities are therefore those materials put in place during teaching learning process that could also be interact with by the staffs and students during there leisure hours in the school premises. The recreational facilities necessary for effective teaching processes include laboratory, Gymnasium, library, computer set, and Cyber café. Ezeanichinedu (2009) defined recreational facilities as type of the instructional material and other infrastructural facilities such as building tools, equipment and other teaching–learning aids that are necessary for the students to learn at leisure hours. The author however described recreational facilities as materials that are necessary for the students teaching and learning process. The author describes recreational facilities as an aid to effective students' academic performance. The author also

noted that there are some recreational facilities that the students can use subject could aid effective teaching-learning process. Ezeanichinedu, stated that every subject has her own recreational facilities for instance in mathematics, there are abacus, computer, calculations pyramid, Ayo, whots, ludo, shopping corner etc. In English Language there are Novels, dramatization, reading corner etc. Also, in science subjects there are scientific equipment in the laboratory. Every type of facilities played with have significant impacts on the teaching learning processes in the schools and they have positive impacts on the students academic performance.

Gbadamosi (1991) described recreational facilities as all forms of information carrier that are used to record preserve, transmit or retrieve information through recreational activities for the instructional processes in the schools. The author described recreational facilities as an indispensable tool for effective teaching-learning processes the schools. Gbadamosi mentioned different types of recreational facilities that the schools can put in place for the school use as film strips, flat pictures, projected and non-projected films, photographic materials, maps, globes, charts and diagrams.

Adebanjo (1996) noted that the children learn best, when the school environment is enriched with adequate teaching learning materials. Provision of recreational facilities in the schools created several avenues whereby individual students can develop intellectually according to their potentials and abilities. Adebanjo however was the opinion that adequate supply of recreational facilities reduce students unrest and vandalism, it also enhances smooth execution of educational programme for effective students academic performance.

Fakomogbon(2000) described recreational facilities as printed e.g. textbooks, workbooks, and electronics gargets such as software, non printed forms which include: low cost aids e.g. charts, maps and models. Fakomogbon, noted that recreational facilities are important tools that the teacher make use during the teaching learning processes and for teaching effectiveness. The teaching materials mentioned are printed, Sketches, charts pictures, objects and machines. The author however noted that many teaching—learning facilities are needed to be kept by the teachers if effective teaching – learning processes are to be enhanced.

Ogundele(2007)defined students academic performance as the scholastic nature of the Students during teaching-learning activities in the schools system. Ogundele however, described students academic performance as the totality of the result in the final examination especially in the west African schools certificate examination WASSCE, NECO, NABTEB and Grade II teachers certificate examination.

Ogundele however noted that if the students were taught during their leisure hours using the available recreational facilities in the environment, effective teaching learning process will take place among the students

Dantani (2007) described students' academic performance as the success rate recorded at academic at the end of the effective teaching-leaching process. The level of the student academic performance dictate the level at which the success rate is recorded in the school system. Student academic performance is however regarded as an indicator of the teachers' productivity. No school that has low percentage of the students' result that will be regarded as the productive school and no parent or society wants to associate themselves with high failure rate in the schools. Dantani noted that recreational facilities affect student academic performance while student academic performance quality maybe influenced by the available recreational facilities. One of the potent indicators for evaluating educational standard and quality is an examination of recreational facilities available for the teaching-learning process.

Adeboyeje (1985) stated that one of the most important issues relating to the production of the highly qualified teachers is the procurement of relevant and adequate physical facilities like building, playing ground, landscaping, sporting equipment, sanitary facilities as well as furniture. Adeboyeje, also pointed out that the quality of education that children receive bears direct relevance to the availability of recreational facilities and overall climate in which learning take place. Beside, after determine the size of the student to be served, it is essential to devoted attention to the quality of the recreational facilities that would be provided for them.

Ogungbemi (2004) observed that effective students academic performance can only be achieved when students' needs are met by the school through the provision of adequate and relevant facilities such as good and attractive building, equipment, furniture, laboratories, workshop, libraries, medical and library facilities in order to create conductive teaching- learning environment. Ogungbemi, however asserted that the provision of adequate and appropriate school building is one of the most important responsibilities of the school principals.

Oyedeji (1998) suggested that library facilities are one of the recreational facilities that the school should be provided in order to enhance effectiveness and efficiency in the student academic performance. Library is regarded as the recreational center where the student could enhance their mental abilities through reading of the novels, book, periodical, kits, bolographic, reference items, journals magazine, news paper, charts, maps, rewards, and other educational and

educative material. Oyedeji however suggested that standard library facilities should be maintained in order to provide up-to date information that are easily accessible to both teachers and the students.

Suleiman (2001) also mentioned laboratory, library, indoor sport halls and gymnasium as good examples of recreational centers where effective teaching-learning process could be enhanced. To the author, laboratory can be defined as a place where various empirical scientific concepts and their relationships are being learnt through practice or experimentation, without laboratory, experimental works could not be adequately learnt. The use of laboratory approach to teaching has also be extended beyond the science subjects, there are growing demand for languages laboratory in the schools. It is therefore important to note that recreational facilities are tools for the teaching learning processes in all subjects in the secondary schools. The availability of recreational facilities in the schools in the school system is not only helping the teaching-learning process but improved the students' ability in the schools. It should be noted therefore that effective students' academic performance can be enhanced if adequate recreational facilities for the teaching and learning processes are provided in the schools.

The rationale for this study is to investigate the availability of recreational facilities for effective teaching –learning processes, the improvisation rate, Are these recreational facilities effectively utilized? What are there impacts on the teaching–learning processes and students academic performance in secondary schools especially in Kwara State, Nigeria.

Statement of problem

Since educational facilities availability and utilization are the effective tools for effective realization of educational objective. It is therefore becomes imperative that every schools should put in place various strategies for enhancing effective students academic performance. This study therefore, focused on the availability, improvisation, utilization and impacts of recreational facilities on the student's academic performance in secondary schools of Kwara State in Nigeria.

Purpose of the study

The purpose of this is to determine the direct influence of recreational facilities on students' academic performances in secondary schools in Kwara State.

The major objectives of this study are to:

- Find out the major types of recreational facilities in the schools.
- Investigate the availability of these and determined there recreational facilities utilization rate.
- Examined the influence of these recreational facilities on the students' academic performance in Kwara State.
- Find out if these facilities could be improvised for effective teaching and learning processed in Ilorin metropolis.
- Investigate the major problems militating against effective utilization of the recreational facilities in the secondary schools.

Research hypotheses

The following hypotheses were generated to guide the study.

- Ho1: There is the significant relationship between the recreational facilities availability and student academic performance in the secondary school in Kwara State.
- Ho2: There is no significant relationship between recreational facilities utilization and student academic performance in secondary schools.
- Ho3: There is no significant relationship between the improvisation of recreational facilities and student academic performance in secondary schools.

Methodology

The study is a correlation survey design type. This study examined the relationship between recreational facilities and secondary schools' Students academic performance in kwara state. The study however focused on variables of recreational facilities that the teachers could use to enhance effective student, student academic performance in the schools. The study population comprised of principals and teachers, PTA executives and the Vice-principals. Stratified random sampling technique was used to select 120 (50%) secondary schools in Kwara State. A total of 1200 respondents were used for the study. Recreational Facilities Availability Questionnaire (RFAQ) and Students Academic Performance Format (SAPF) were used to collect relevant data relating to the types, availability improvisation and utilization of the recreational facilities and

students academic performance. The instrument was validated through comments and criticism from the experts in physical and environmental education. Split half reliability method was used to determine the reliability index of the instrument to be 'r' = .67 indicating that the instrument is reliable for use. The data obtained were analyzed using Pearson product moment correlation statistics tested at .05 significance level. The aim is to determine the level of availability, improvisation and utilization of the recreational facilities as they influence students' academic performance of secondary schools in Kwara State, Nigeria

Results

Ho_1: There is no significant relationship between the recreational facilities availability and students academic performance in Ilorin Metropolis.

Table 1 Recreational facilities availability and students academic performance in secondary school

Variable	No	$\overline{X}$	Sd	Df	Cal-culated r-value	Critical r-value	Deci-sion
Recreational facilities	1200	63.2	12.48				
				1119	0.63	0.20	Ho1 Reject
Students academic performance	1200	55.28	7.53				

The result of correlation analysis in table 1 shows that the calculated r-value of 0.63 and is greater than the critical r-value of 0.195 at the 0.05. Level of significance and at a degree of freedom of 1119. Since the calculated r-value is greater than the critical r -value, the null hypothesis which states that there is no significant relationship between recreational facilities availability and students academic performance is however rejected. It however means that positive significant relationship exist between the available recreational facilities and students academic performance. The result is in line with the opinion of Aboyeji (2001) which stated that if the teachers in secondary schools makes use of

educational facilities like teaching aids be it instructional or recreational facilities the students will be able to excel higher in their academic activities. It will also aid high success rate in the school. It however shows that recreational facilities have significant impact on the students' academic performance especially in the secondary schools

Ho_2: There is no significant relationship between recreational facilities utilization and students academic performance secondary schools.

Table 2 Recreation facilities utilization and students' academic performance in Schools.

Variable	No	$\overline{X}$	Sd	Df	Cal-culated r-value	Critical r-value	Deci-sion
Recreational facilities	1200	72.41	9.34				
				1119	0.72	0.195	Ho2 Reject
Students academic performance	1200	55.28	7.35				

Table 2 above indicates that the calculated r-value of 0.72 is greater than the critical r-value of 0.195 at a degree of freedom of 1119 and tested at 0.05 significant level. Hence the hypothesis which stated that there is no significant relationship between recreational facilities utilization and students academic performance is however rejected. It shows that a high significant relationship exist between recreational facilities and students academic performance the result is in line with the statement of Ogunjobi (2001) which stated that effective utilization of the educational faculties aid high success rate among secondary schools. The more the students see feel and practical the more success rate among the students in the school. Educational facilities utilization therefore become signal for teachers' productivity and students' academic performance in Nigerian schools.

Ho3: There is no significant relationship between the improvisation of recreational faculties and students academic performance.

Table 3 Improvisation of recreational facilities and student academic performance in secondary schools

Variable	No	$\overline{X}$	Sd	Df	Cal-culated r-value	Critical r-value	Deci-sion
Recreational facilities	1200	62.41	12.48				
				1119	0.58	0.195	Ho 3 Reject
Students academic performance	1200	55.12	7.53				

Table 3 above indicates that the calculated r-value of 0.58 is greater than the critical r-value of 0.195 at degree of freedom of 1119 and tested at a significance level of 0.05. Hence, the null hypothesis which stated that there is no significant relationship between the improvisation of recreational facilities and student academic performance in secondary school is therefore rejected.

It however indicates that a high significant relationship exist between the improvisation of the recreational facilities and students academic performance. The result is in line with the opinion of Ajayi (2004) which states that the teachers need to improvise for the needed instructional facilities in the absence of the real objects. The teachers can draw, mount and make use of printed materials to provide substitute for the real objects. Improvisation is therefore necessary in the interest of effective teaching –learning processes and students academic performance in the school system.

Conclusion

Based on the result of the data collected and analyzed, it could be concluded that the availability, improvisation and utilization of the recreational facilities are impetus to effective students' academic performance in the schools. However, both the teachers and students in Kwara State secondary schools are encouraged to make improvisation for the recreational facilities that are not available for teaching learning process in the schools.

Recommendations

Based on the conclusion, the following recommendations were made:
Teachers' motivation towards the use of available recreational facilities

The teachers should be encouraged to make use of recreational facilities in the interest of effective student's academic performance. Teachers' morale should be improved by ways of good salaries and other allowance to make recreational facilities available for effective teaching learning processes.

Establishment of educational resource centers to ensure availability of recreational facilities

Educational resources centers should be established in every Local Government Areas to ensure that there is availability and utilization of recreational facilities.

Adequate provision of funds to make improvisation for recreational facilities in the schools

There should be adequate provision of funds for effective improvisation of teaching materials like recreational facilities for the students. Provision of conducive learning environment that will permit recreational activities in the schools

The government should provide conducive teaching learning environment through provision of recreational facilities for both the teacher and students in interest of effective students' academic performance in the school

Adequate involvement of private sectors in the provision of recreational facilities

Private sectors should be adequately be involved in the provision of recreational facilities for secondary schools students' use in the interest of effective academic performance especially in kwara state.

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