The Construction of a Supportive WWW Web Site for Australian Primary Science Teaching

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Abstract: Previous studies indicated that Australian primary science teaching had been in a state of crisis. Teachers need more support to strengthen their background scientific knowledge and skills, to design programs, to access teaching resources, and to find answers for their questions quickly. A web site has been set up on the Internet in which seven science-units were constructed in the homepage formats. The characteristic of each science unit is its theme-based contents that link to other Key Learning Areas in Australian primary curriculum. Each unit also contains template program overviews, links to teaching resources, links to other Internet lesson plans, links to frequently asked questions, links to experts and news discussion groups, and links to fun sites for kids. This research demonstrates the educational potential of the WWW in primary science education to overcome some of the Australian primary school teachers' difficulties and to meet their needs.