

Using Easily Accessible Resources to Teach Acids and Bases: A Namibian Case Study

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ABSTRACT The aim of the study was to explore context based teaching and learning approaches in Namibia using the local improvised instructional materials to teach acid and bases concepts in grade 9. The study is located within an interpretive paradigm as an in-depth study of exploration using easily accessible resources as instructional materials with a grade 9 (27 learners). While the findings revealed that learners did not know that acids and bases exist in their surroundings, it emerged that after the scaffolding by the researcher, learners managed to mention quite a number of local acidic and basic materials. The finding further showed that, conducting practical activities with the improvised instructional materials resulted in the same level of performance as the standardized instructional materials. Therefore, probing of learners' prior everyday knowledge during instruction and usage of improvised instructional materials was a good indicator in promoting conceptual understanding and learner engagement.