

**Action Research Area of Focus**

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## **Action Research Area of Focus**

### **Context**

Ideally, my area of focus is teaching children with special needs since they represent a group that requires special attention and is often maligned (Davis & Rimm, 2003).

### **Explanation of Problem**

In early childhood education, teachers play a crucial part in the child's development. Therefore, they are required to have different skills and competencies. They must manage the child's learning, make strategic instructional plans, and organize how the children get these instructions. When children with special needs are involved, the functions become even more demanding.

Therefore, it is an area that requires action research and focuses. Also, it requires passion and dedication not only to the children but also to the profession. According to Davis (2015), individualized learning in early childhood education through individual goal setting is a good teaching strategy. If this strategy is well applied among special needs children, it would achieve results and help improve learning capabilities.

### **Purpose and Educational Significance**

Children with special needs require customized constant attention to achieve their potential. Failure to give them the required attention makes them lag and trying to catch with their colleagues becomes a daunting task as the education level progresses. Focusing on this group would ensure equality in education as long as children would have equal opportunity and chance to learn and develop academically. It would also help to improve their academic performance by helping them be at par with their colleagues.

### **Population**

The target population is children aged between 3-5 years. They represent students in their formative and developmental ages. This is the most crucial stage for any student. It is the phase that determines their academic journey depending on their ability to grasp basic concepts.

### **Research question**

How can individual goal setting help improve ~~learning~~ among special needs students?

### **Locus of Control**

As a student, my locus of control is on planning for my future role and conducting research that would help improve my skills and competencies. The research will help me understand the scope of the problem and the action required to remedy the situation.

### References

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- Davis, G., & Rimm, S. B. (2003). *Education of the gifted and talented* 5<sup>th</sup> edition (5th ed.).  
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