

Examination of Skill-Based Questions in the Subject Area of the Science Course "Living Things and Life" in Terms of Root Values

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ABSTRACT

Presenting skill-based questions to students in a way that is associated with daily life can enable students to acquire values implicitly through questions. This study aims to examine the skill-based questions in the subject area of 'Living Things and Life' at the 5th, 6th, and 7th-grade levels of the science course in terms of root values. The research was conducted by document analysis, which is a qualitative research method. The 124 skill-based questions in the subject area were analyzed descriptively by the deductive analysis method in terms of both visual and content. When the skill-based questions in the subject area of Living Things and Life were analyzed based on units, it was seen that there was not a balanced distribution in terms of root values and while the root value of responsibility was mostly included, the root value of honesty was not sufficiently included. In addition, it was concluded that patriotism, benevolence, respect, self-control, justice, patience, love, and friendship were the root values identified from most to least.

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Keywords:

Skill-based questions, living things and life, root values, science education

INTRODUCTION

Living in a world where how and for what purpose information is used is more important than knowledge brings along several problems and responsibilities. In a global sense, the transformation of these problems and responsibilities into consciousness in the individual; the process of growth, development, and recovery begins with the individual's self-knowledge within himself/herself. Within each individual, a butterfly's power of influence is hidden, just waiting for the time when it will be revealed.

Every individual on the journey of self-actualization has certain priorities and strives to move forward in line with their goals. What guides the individual in intellectual and behavioral dimensions and determines his/her direction (Ersoy, 2018) are the values that he/she can internalize and reflect in his/her life. What values mean may vary depending on how each individual makes sense of value in his/her nature (Güngör, 2010).

The meaningfulness of living and existing in social life becomes possible with the ability of values to fulfill their functions and to ensure social solidarity (Yazıcı, 2016). Although each society may have its values, the principles that the individuals who make up the society attribute to values express a reflection of the roles of individuals in social life (Özensel, 2003). In interaction with society and the environment, the individual experiences certain values (Gökalp, 2014). At this point, it is of great importance that the experienced value is first made sense of, analyzed, and then passed through the process of moral reasoning (Akbaş, 2008; Carr, 1998), and therefore, it is of great importance to provide individuals with critical and independent thinking skills (Holmes, 1976; Çepni, Bacanak, & Küçük, 2003; Kwak, 2008). One of the ways of providing metacognitive skills as critical and independent thinking skills to students in the education process is skill-based questions. Skill-based questions are prepared in the context of daily life and present 21st-century skills to the evaluation of students with appropriate subjects and acquisitions (Şan & İlhan, 2022). In this context, the fact that skill-based questions have a life-based approach allows values to be presented to students implicitly and integrated with critical and independent thinking skills.

Values education has gained a new meaning with the 'root values' in the 'our values' section added to the renewed curriculum in 2018 (MoNE, 2018). In this context, reconciling the metacognitive

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skills that the science course aims to provide to individuals with values education should be one of the primary goals of teachers in educational institutions, which are a strong representative of the social structure.

In the studies in the literature on the extent to which values can be integrated into education;

- Textbooks (Özdemir, 2023; Yılmaz & Yıldırım, 2023; Kemiksiz, 2021a; Turan & Duman, 2023; Köksal et al, 2022; Maviş Sevim & Gül, 2021; Türker, Dündar, & Sözcü, 2023; Kav & Kav, 2023; Çiçek & Asar, 2022; Durhat & Ökten, 2020; Aydın, 2021; Tarakcı & Kalenderoğlu, 2022; Divrik & Aydoğdu, 2023; Şahin & Yaman, 2023)
- Curriculums (Değirmenci, 2018; Karasu Avcı & Ketenoğlu Kayabaşı, 2018; Gökçe Tekin & Bedir, 2019; Üreyen Çimen & Özmantar, 2023; Esemen, 2020)
- Animation films (Şentürk & Keskin, 2019; Hakkoymaz, 2021; Kaymak & Öğretir Özçelik, 2020; Albayrak & Kartal, 2020; Ufak & Yorulmaz, 2022)
- Children's literature works (Özbaşı, 2020; Kaplan & Peker, 2022; Kaya & Gül, 2023; Kıymaz & Altay, 2021; Yıldız, 2023; Korkutan & Kaplan, 2022; Abdullatif & Kırkkılıç, 2021; Bulut, 2021; Calp & Kaplan, 2021; Geçgel & Durak, 2020)
- Theatre texts (Şar, 2021; Türkan & Türkan, 2018)
- Novels (Kaplan & Arıc, 2022; Musuloğlu et al., 2023; Sayır, 2022; Tozlu & Yüce, 2020)
- Magazines (Ekizce, 2023; Alabay et al., 2018; Yılmaz & Duman, 2018; Orhan, 2021; Tekin Bahrilli & Göloğlu Demir, 2021)
- Turkish films (Ünal, 2020)
- The Turkish National Anthem (Tay & Nalçacı, 2020)
- The first Turkish Islamic works (Soyuçok, 2022; Şehitoğlu, 2021)
- Turkish proverbs (Kemiksiz, 2021b)
- Songs (Coşkun Keskin & Akyıldız, 2021; Aksoy, 2023; Yolasığmazoğlu, 2022; Kara & Emirhan, 2020; Karagözoğlu, 2020)
- Children's calendar (Çimen, Solmaz, & Biricik, 2022)
- Advertisements (Yıldız, 2023)
- Holy books (Gündüz, 2018).

However, it was observed that the number of studies in the literature on root values in the field of science was limited and no study examining skill-based questions in terms of root values was found. Therefore, it is thought that this study will contribute to the literature with a unique perspective on the extent to which it is reflected in the skills-based sciences course questions and in which the integration of core values into the science course is provided.

In addition, in the 2024 Turkish Century Education Model Science course 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th-grade draft curriculum, an understanding of science teaching that covers 21st-century skills is targeted by taking into account the Turkish Qualifications Framework. In this direction, it is aimed that students use literacy skills with a holistic perspective in problem-solving and informed decision-making. Values are explicitly included in teaching-learning practices by integrating them with other skills and inter-programme relationships (MoNE, 2024). The fact that values are at the basis of the new curriculum in this sense shows the importance of our study. After the formalization of the curriculum, students will no longer encounter skill-based questions only in the measurement and evaluation dimension, but the implementation of the lessons will be within the framework of these skills and values.

Skill Based Questions were published by the General Directorate of Measurement, Assessment and Examination Services on 07.10.2019. Presenting skill-based questions to students in a way that is associated with daily life can enable students to acquire values implicitly through questions. In our research, it was aimed to examine the skill-based questions in the subject area of 'Living Things and Life' in the science course in terms of root values. For this purpose, the problem statement is as follows:

➤ How are the root values of 'justice, friendship, honesty, self-control, patience, respect, love, responsibility, patriotism, benevolence' included in the skill-based questions at the 5th, 6th, and 7th-grade levels of the science course?

METHOD

Research Design

This research was conducted with document analysis, which is a qualitative research method. Document analysis refers to the analysis of written sources containing the existence of facts or phenomena in the direction of the researcher's goal, and which document can be used as a data source varies according to the problem of the research (Yıldırım & Şimşek, 2021).

Data Collection and Analysis

The data source of the study consists of Skill-Based Questions published by the General Directorate of Measurement, Assessment and Examination Services on 07.10.2019 (MoNE, 2019). The 124 skill-based questions in the subject area of Living Things and Life at the 5th, 6th, and 7th-grade levels were examined in terms of both visual and content, taking into account the ten root values in the Secondary Science curriculum. The Values Education Activity Book published by the General Directorate of Secondary Education on 19.11.2022, which is thought to facilitate the analysis of the meanings of the root values in terms of the validity and reliability of the study, was examined in detail (MoNE, 2022). The root value relationship contained in the skill-based questions was analyzed descriptively with the deductive analysis method in terms of both visual and content. According to this analysis method, the data are summarised and interpreted in line with predetermined themes according to the problem situation (Yıldırım & Şimşek, 2021). In the process of conducting the research, the analyzed data were continuously submitted to the evaluation of three experts, one academician and two science teachers, and validity and reliability were tried to be ensured by taking into account the feedback.

Limitations of the Study

When the studies on root values for science courses were analyzed, it was seen that the most values were identified in the subject area of Living Things and Life (Özdemir, 2023; Yılmaz & Yıldırım, 2023). It was seen that the skill-based questions published by the General Directorate of Measurement, Evaluation, and Examination Services were not available for the 8th-grade level, and for this reason, the skill-based questions at the 5th, 6th and 7th-grade levels were limited to the tests in the subject area of Living Things and Life as data sources.

FINDINGS

In line with the purpose of the study, the inclusion of the root values of justice, friendship, honesty, self-control, patience, respect, love, responsibility, patriotism, and benevolence in the skill-based questions in the subject area of "Living Things and Life" at the 5th, 6th and 7th-grade levels of the science course is presented in Table 1 as a general framework.

Table 1. The Inclusion of Root Values in the Skill-Based Questions of the Units in the Subject Area of Living Things and Life

Living Things and Life Units in the Subject Area	Justice	Friendship	Honesty	Self-control	Patience	Respect	Love	Responsibility	Patriotism	Benevolence	f
S.5.2. World of Living Things	6	2	1	6	8	8	2	9	11	4	57
S.5.6. Human and Environment	9	7	2	5	2	15	7	18	18	3	86
S.6.2. Systems in Our Body	2	2	2	6	2	3	2	18	5	16	58
S.6.6. Systems in Our Body and Health	5	7	5	14	5	7	6	16	10	16	91
S.7.2. Cell and Divisions	2	2	-	5	4	6	-	13	5	11	48
S.7.6. Reproduction, Growth, and Development in Living Things	10	5	4	6	12	12	14	13	8	6	90
Total	34	25	14	42	33	51	31	87	57	56	430

The findings on how the root values identified in the questions in the relevant units were handled in the association of skill-based questions with root values in the units specified in Table 1 are given below for each root value.

The root value of *justice* was addressed in skill-based questions by applying the same or different conditions to the experimental groups and emphasizing equality, sensitizing to the right to life of all living things, creating unity against oppression through social media sharing, using power and resources fairly, valuing all living things regardless of religion, language, race, and gender, and ensuring equal opportunities for all.

In skill-based questions, the root value of *friendship* was evaluated as being interested in living things, playing games together and being friends, being understanding of differences, greeting and caring for each other, being selfless in a situation that requires volunteering, altruism, and mutual labor.

The root value of *honesty* was found in skill-based questions such as sharing accurate information in a news article and informing the public, being truthful, and feeling the conscientious responsibility of behaviors in situations requiring volunteerism and labor.

The root value of *self-control* was addressed in skill-based questions as giving importance to self-care, protecting the self, being conscious and at peace with oneself in one's actions and words, making decisions by thinking about the consequences of one's actions, adopting rules, setting priorities and goals, controlling one's thoughts and behaviors, and being solution-oriented.

The root value of *patience* is found in skill-based questions, such as waiting for the outcome of an experiment, being hopeful in a situation where help is needed, enduring the difficulties and hardships encountered, being calm, maintaining courage, being resilient and durable, being persevering, being determined and determined.

In skill-based questions, the root value of *respect* was evaluated as developing solutions to protect natural beauties and protecting all living things, valuing all living things and being aware that their lives are valuable, valuing the differences between living things that can show different characteristics, realizing that the country's resources are valuable, avoiding interventions that will disrupt the balance of nature, valuing and respecting elders.

In the skill-based questions, the root value of *love* was addressed as protecting and caring for nature and living things, caring for offspring and feeding them with milk, loving and being loved, ensuring social peace, commitment to life, being compassionate, and giving importance to family unity.

The root value of *responsibility* is included in skill-based questions as being responsible for oneself and all living and non-living beings in the environment, striving for the good and welfare of

others, taking responsibility for the consequences caused, fulfilling one's duties, and taking responsibility.

The root value of *patriotism* can be seen in skill-based questions; the necessity of obeying rules and laws, the prominence of the motives of productivity and diligence during the conduct of an experiment or research, a student's contribution to the functioning of the classroom, and trying to maintain his/her student status in the best way possible, sensitivity to natural heritage, caring for the community and being a participant.

For the root value of *benevolence*, trying to be useful to the environment, emphasizing cooperation, being sensitive to the problems and needs of others, supporting teachers or friends, solidarity, and volunteering activities are emphasized.

The findings regarding the examination of the skill-based questions in the subject area of "Living Things and Life" at the 5th, 6th, and 7th-grade levels of the science course in terms of root values are presented under the 6 unit titles specified in Table 1, respectively.

Findings Related to the World of Living Things Unit

The distribution of the root values identified in 20 skill-based questions in the World of Living Things unit is given in the graph below.

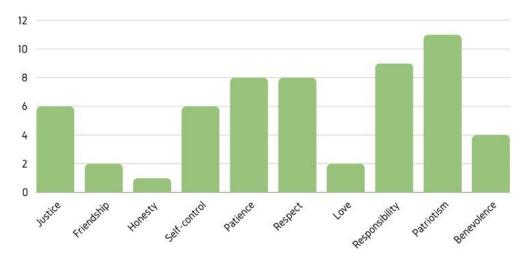
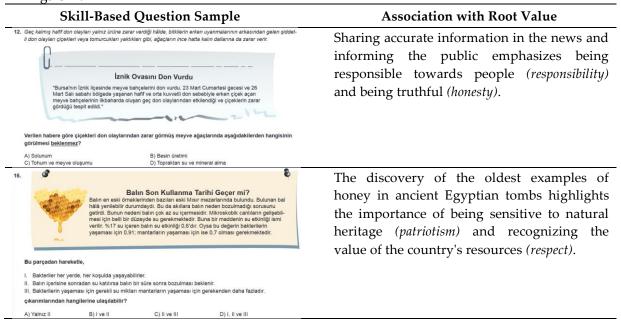


Figure 1. Root Values Identified in Skill-Based Questions in the World of Living Things Unit

According to the graph, patriotism (f=11) was the most frequently found root value in the skill-based questions in the unit, while honesty (f=1) was the least frequently found root value. In addition, justice (f=6), friendship (f=2), self-control (f=6), patience (f=8), respect (f=8), love (f=2), responsibility (f=9), benevolence (f=4) were also included in the questions and a total of 57 root values were found in 20 questions. Examples of the associations of the most and least common root values in the skill-based questions in the unit are given in Table 2.

Table 2. Examples of Skill-Based Questions Associated with Root Values in the World of Living Things Unit



Findings Related to the Human and Environment Unit

The distribution of the root values identified in 20 skill-based questions in the Human and Environment unit is given in the graph below.

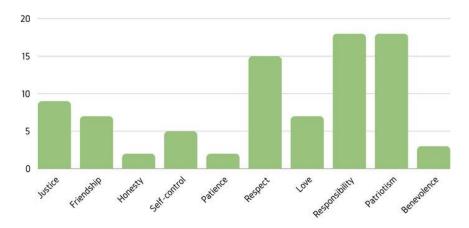


Figure 2. Root Values Identified in Skill-Based Questions in Human and Environment Unit

According to the graph, the most common root values found in the skill-based questions in the unit were responsibility and patriotism (f=18), while the least common root values were honesty and patience (f=2). In addition, justice (f=9), friendship (f=7), self-control (f=5), respect (f=15), love (f=7), and benevolence (f=3) were also included in the questions and a total of 86 root values were found in 20 questions. Examples of the association of the most and least common root values in the skill-based questions in the unit are given in Table 3.

Table 3. Examples of Skill-Based Questions Associated with Root Values in Human and Environment Unit

Skill Based Question Sample Association with Root Value The person is aware that the life of the Dünya'da tek kalan, özel bakıma alınmış Dunya da tek kaian, özel bakıma alınmış Sudan isimli rekek kuzey beyaz gergedanı 45 yaşında yaşam mücadelesini kaybetmiştir. Bu haberi sosyal medyadan paylaşan bir kişi Bugün, milyonlarca yıl hayatta kalmayı başarmış ama insandan kurtulamamış bir türün yok oluşuna tanık oluyoruz" demiştir. northern white rhino is valuable (respect), expresses the reason for its loss of life with honesty without hesitation (honesty), and takes responsibility for the consequences caused by Metne göre insanın canlılar üzerinde, his generation (responsibility). The person said, I. İnsan faaliyetleri biyoçeşitliliği tehdit etmektedi II. İnsanlar doğadaki tüm canlıların ölümünden sorumludu "We are witnessing the extinction of a species III. Tedavisi yapılsaydı, kuzey beyaz gergedanın nesli kurtulabilirdi etkilerinden hangileri vardır? that could not be saved from human beings" and emphasized the motive of unity against oppression (justice) by sharing it on social media. In addition, he/she exhibited the attitudes of protecting nature and living creatures, showing compassion, caring, being interested in all living things (friendship and love), and sensitivity to natural heritage (patriotism) was developed. "The researchers observed the number of fish in the lake by waiting for 5 months to see the results of the process they applied (patience), they fulfilled their duties by recording the change data (responsibility), and two or more people continued the study in cooperation (benevolence) in line with the expression "researchers". The fact that the researchers conducted such research emphasized being productive and hardworking (patriotism). Verilen tablo incelendiğinde,

Findings Related to the Systems in Our Body Unit

C) I ve III

D) II ve III

II. Balık sayısının artması biyoçeşitliliğin arttığını göster

B) I ve II

çıkarımlarından hangileri yapılabilir?

A) Yalnız I

The distribution of the root values identified in 20 skill-based questions in the Systems in Our Body unit is given in the graph below.

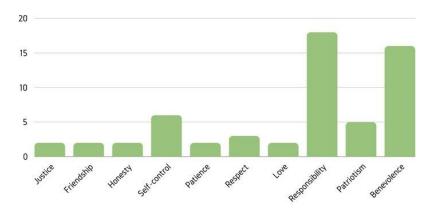


Figure 3. Root Values Identified in Skill-Based Questions in the Systems in Our Body Unit

According to the graph above, the most common root value found in the skill-based questions in the unit was responsibility (f=18), while the least common root values were justice, friendship, honesty, patience, and love (f=2). In addition, self-control (f=6), respect (f=3), patriotism (f=5), and benevolence (f=16) were also included in the questions and a total of 58 root values were found in 20 questions. An example of the association of all root values in skill-based questions in the unit is given in Table 4.

Table 4. Skill-Based Question Sample Associated with Root Values in the Systems in Our Body Unit

Skill-Based Question Sample 13. T.C. Sağlık Bakanlığı tarafından geliştirilen e-Nabız, sağlık kuruluşlarından toplanan sağlık verilerine vatandaşların ve sağlık profesyonellerinin internet ve mobil cihazlar üzerinden erişebilecekleri bir uygulamadır. Uygulamada tibbi özgeçmişle liğili birçok verinin yanında Türk Kızılayı'na alt kan bağışı noktaları, kan bağışı gerinşi ve ne zaman kan bağışı yapılabileceğine alt bilgilere de ulaşılabilir. Kızıra e-Nabız üzerinden gönüllü kan bağışışı olduğunuzale belirileris olduğunuz il ve ilçelerde acili kan intiyacı olması halinde Türk Kızılayı sizinle mesaj yoluyla iletişime geçebilmektedir. A) Kan bağışı işlemlerinin ihtiyaca göre ve sistematik yapılmasını sağlar B) Bağışlanan kanın hasta bireye ulaştırılmasıyla toplumsal dayanışmaya katkı sağlar. C) Kan bağısı noktalarının sistem üzerinden görüntülenebilmesi bağıs sürecinin hızlanmasını sağlar D) Tıbbi özgeçmişleri de görüntüleyebildiğinden hiçbir tetkike gerek kalmadan bireylerin kan bağışı yapabilm sağlar.

Association with Root Value

The Red Crescent's direct operation as a charity organization through e-Nabiz and the emphasis on blood donation; being sensitive to the problems and needs of others and volunteering activities (benevolence); caring for society and being a participant (patriotism); altruism, solidarity and caring for all living beings (friendship); valuing all living beings regardless of religion, language, race, and gender and sensitivity to the right to life (justice); taking care of one's own health at the same time as giving blood (self-control); empathy and being able to endure the difficulties and hardships encountered while donating blood and knowing how to wait (patience); compassion and social peace (love); valuing oneself and all living beings (respect); striving for the well-being and welfare of others and being responsible towards others (responsibility); and feeling conscientious responsibility for one's actions (honesty).

Findings Related to the Systems in Our Body and Health Unit

The distribution of the root values identified in 21 skill-based questions in the Systems in Our Body and Health unit is given in the graph below.

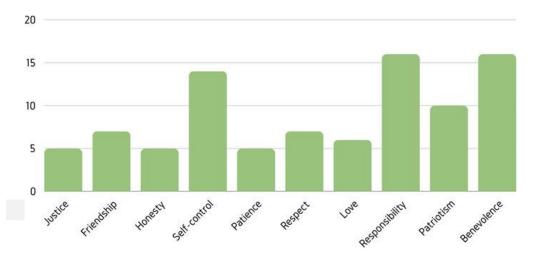


Figure 4. Root Values Identified in Skill-Based Questions in the Systems in Our Body and Health Unit

According to the graph above, the most common root values found in the skill-based questions in the unit were responsibility and benevolence (f=16), while the least common root values were justice, honesty, and patience (f=5). In addition, friendship (f=7), self-control (f=14), respect (f=7), love (f=6), and patriotism (f=10) were also included in the questions and a total of 91 root values were found in 21 questions. An example of the association of all root values in skill-based questions in the unit is given in Table 5.

Table 5. Skill-Based Question Sample Associated with Root Values in the Systems in Our Body and Health Unit

Skill-Based Question Sample 21. Türkiye'de yapılan son araştırmılara göre organ bağışı le ilgili veriler ayağıdaki güsdir. Sayılarla organ bağışı Olgan bağışınını en fazla olduğu şehirlerde lik sırada İzmir yer aliyor. İzmir İstanbul Kocaeli Manisa Ankarı ele bin 864 55 bin 588 34 bin 330 27 bin 113 19 bin 875 Sayılarla organ nakil Türkiye'de 26 bin 524 hasta organ nakil bekiliyor. Boserek makıl 22 bin 868 Mənəckənwel 289 MANIĞERINWI 22 bin 850 Mənəckənwel 289 MANIĞERINWI 22 bin 156 MANIĞERINWI 250 MANIĞERINWI 82 MANIĞERINWI 250 MANIĞERINWI 82 MANIĞERINWI 850 MANIĞERINWI 82 MANIĞERINWI 850 MANIĞERINWI 82 MANIĞERINWI 850 MANIĞERINWI 82 MANIĞERINWI 850 MANIĞERINWI 166 MANIĞERINWI 850 MANIĞERINWI 166 MANIĞERINWI 850 MANIĞERINMI 166 MANIĞERINMI 850 MANIĞERINMI 166 MANIĞERINMI 850 MANIĞERINMI 166 MANIĞERINMI 37 Bu tabloya göre ayağıdaki çikamılardan hangisi kesinlikle doğrudur? A) En az naki beklenen organ akciğerdir. B) Türkiye'de pankross nakil yapılamamılardır. C) Böbrek rakil bekleyen hastalar çoğunluktadır. C) Organ bağığının en falal alışınırdırdır.

Association with Root Value

In the explanations and data related to organ donation, it is seen that being sensitive to the right to life of all living beings (justice); being caring and altruistic (friendship); feeling conscientious responsibility for one's actions (honesty); being conscious in one's actions and words (self-control); being persevering, enduring hardships and difficulties, knowing how to wait, being hopeful and empathizing (patience); valuing all people (respect); ensuring social peace, being supportive, sensitive, caring and compassionate towards all living beings (love); striving for the well-being and welfare of others, being responsible towards all people (responsibility); caring for society (patriotism); solidarity, trying to be useful to people, being sensitive to the problems and needs of others (benevolence).

Findings Related to the Cell and Divisions Unit

The distribution of the root values identified in 20 skill-based questions in the Cell and Divisions unit is given in the graph below.

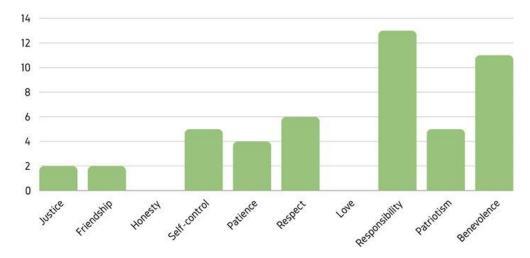


Figure 5. Root Values Identified in Skill-Based Questions in Cell and Divisions Unit

According to the graph, the most common root value found in the skill-based questions in the unit was responsibility (f=13), while the least common root values were justice and friendship

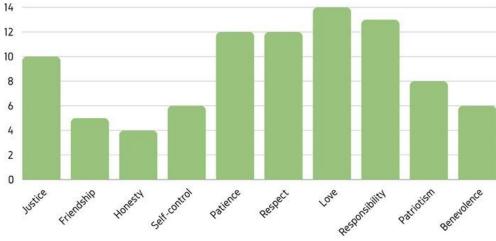
(f=2). In addition, self-control (f=5), patience (f=4), respect (f=6), patriotism (f=5), and benevolence (f=11) were also included in the questions, but honesty and love were not included. A total of 48 root values were found in 20 questions. Examples of the association of the most and least common root values in the skill-based questions in the unit are given in Table 6.

Table 6. Examples of Skill-Based Questions Associated with Root Values in Cell and Divisions Unit

Association with Root Value Skill-Based Question Sample ÜÇLÜ SET OYUNU Mehmet Demet's playing together Mehmet ve Demet üzerinde mayoz ve mitoz bölünmenin özellikidenini yazılı olduğu pulları eşit olarak paylaşıp aşağı daki oyunu oynamaktadırlar. Oyunun amacı şekilde gösterilen örneklerde olduğu gibi aynı bölünme çeşidine ali özel liklerin yazılı olduğu pulları vatayı ökçey ya de, aparaz olarak aynı doğrultu oluşturmasını sağlayıp oyunu kazanmaktırı Aşağıda oyunun belli bir anındaki durumu gösterilmiştir. emphasizes friendship and caring for each other (friendship), sharing the stamps emphasizes equality (justice), the desire to reach the goal of the game emphasizes setting goals and making decisions by thinking about consequences of their behaviors (self-control), and the expression of hereditary diversity emphasizes valuing differences (respect). en hangisi <u>kesinlikle</u> doğrudur? A) Mehmet kalan herhangi bir pulunu 1. hazneye bıraktığı zaman oyunu kazanıı B) Demet kalan herhangi bir pulunu 2. hazneve bıraktığında oyunu kazanı C) Mehmet kalan herhangi bir pulunu 3. hazneye bıraktığı zaman oyunu kazanır. D) Demet kalan herhangi bir pulunu 4. hazneye bıraktığı rada oyunu kazanır. Descriptions of the lysosome emphasize fulfilling one's duty (responsibility) and the work of the organelles in the cell as a recycling plant emphasizes providing support (benevolence). Algılayıcı Yukarıdaki şekilde akyuvar hücresinde bir mikroskobik canlırını lizozomla etkisiz hâle getirilmesi gösterilmektedir. Buna göre lizozomlar doğru şekilde çalışmazsa, I. Hücrenin ölümü II. Daha hızlı büvüm durumlarından hangileri gerçekleşebilir? A) I ve II B) I ve IV C) I, III ve IV D) II, III ve IV

Findings Related to the Reproduction, Growth, and Development in Living Things Unit

The distribution of the root values identified in 23 skill-based questions in the unit on Reproduction, Growth, and Development in Living Things is given in the graph below.



Figure

6. Root

Values Identified in Skill-Based Questions in the Unit of Reproduction, Growth, and Development in

Living Things

According to the graph above, the most frequently found root value in the skill-based questions in the unit was love (f=14), while the least frequently found root value was honesty (f=4). In addition, justice (f=10), friendship (f=5), self-control (f=6), patience (f=12), respect (f=12), responsibility (f=13), patriotism (f=8), and benevolence (f=6) were also included in the questions and a total of 90 root values were found in 23 questions. An example of the association of the most and least common root values in the skill-based questions in the unit is given in Table 7.

Table 7. Skill-Based Question Sample Associated with Root Values in the Unit of Reproduction, Growth, and Development in Living Things

Ayşe'nin annesi bakımını üstlenmesi için Ayşe'ye bir bitki almış, bitkinin özellikleri ve bakımıyla ilgili bilgileri içeren bilgi kartını da vermiştir. Türkçe ismi: Gözyaşı Çiçeği Bakımı: Havadar ve güneşli yerleri sever. Kaktüs toprakları gelsimi in daha uygundur.

Skill-Based Question Sample



Bitki ile ilgili yapılan yorumlardan hangisi <u>yanlıştır</u>?

- A) Çiçek açıp tohum üretmesi eşeyli üreme yaptığını kanıtlar
 B) Dallarından veni bitki oluşması veietatif üremeye örnektir.
- C) Yapraklarında küçük filizlerin oluşması tomurcuklanmaya örnektir.
- D) Meydana gelen eşeysiz üreme çeşidi menekşe bitkisinde de görülmektedir.

Association with Root Value

Information about her mother buying a plant for Ayşe, Ayşe taking care of a plant, and the care and reproduction of the teardrop flower; being sensitive to the rights of all living things (justice); caring for each other, protection of nature and living creatures, compassion (friendship); feeling conscientious responsibility (honesty); one's actions being conscious of one's actions and taking responsibility one's actions (self-control); being determined and persevering as the process requires effort (patience); valuing all living things (respect); protecting and caring for nature and its inhabitants (love); being responsible for all living things and taking responsibility for the consequences of one's actions (responsibility).

Accordingly, when the findings of the study are considered in general, it can be stated that the 124 skill-based questions examined in detail in the subject area of Living Things and Life in the Science course contain a total of 430 root values, including justice (f=34), friendship (f=25), honesty (f=14), self-control (f=42), patience (f=33), respect (f=51), love (f=31), responsibility (f=87), patriotism (f=57) and benevolence (f=56).

RESULTS, DISCUSSION, and SUGGESTIONS

In the study, the skill-based questions in the subject area of "Living Things and Life" at the 5th, 6th, and 7th grade levels of the science course were analyzed under 6 unit titles in terms of root values. As a result, the unit with the highest number of root values was Systems in Our Body and Health, while the unit with the lowest number of root values was Cell and Divisions. The other units are listed as Reproduction, Growth, and Development in Living Things; Human and Environment; Systems in Our Body; and World of Living Things from most to least according to their root value content.

When the units in the subject area of Living Things and Life are examined within themselves, it is seen that in the World of Living Things unit, the root values of patriotism and honesty are the most and the least; in the Human and Environment unit, the root values of responsibility and patriotism, honesty and patience are the most; in the Systems in Our Body unit, the root values of responsibility and justice, friendship, honesty, patience, and love are the most and the least; In the Systems in Our Body and Health unit, most responsibility and benevolence, least justice, honesty, and patience root values; in the Cell and Divisions unit, most responsibility, least justice and friendship root values; in the Reproduction, Growth and Development in Living Things unit, most responsibility and least honesty root values. In addition, it was determined that the root values of honesty and love were not included at all in the Cell and Divisions unit.

When the skill-based questions in the subject area of Living Things and Life were analyzed based on units, it was seen that there was not a balanced distribution in terms of root values and while the root value of responsibility was given the most space, the root value of honesty was not given enough space. Apart from these, it was concluded that patriotism, benevolence, respect, self-control, justice, patience, love, and friendship were the root values identified from most to least.

Özdemir (2023) and Yılmaz and Yıldırım (2023) concluded in their studies that the subject area containing the highest number of root values among the subject areas of the science course was Living Things and Life. For this reason, considering these studies, we tried to determine the presence of root values in the units related to this subject area in our study. In the study conducted by Özdemir (2023), in which science textbooks were examined, it was stated that there was almost no place for root values in the measurement and evaluation sections of the textbooks, and in general, the value of responsibility and honesty were given the most and least place, respectively, and the value of justice was not included, and the distribution was not equal. Similarly, in the study conducted by Yılmaz and Yıldırım (2023), in which science textbooks and curriculum objectives were examined, the results showed that responsibility value and honesty value were mostly included in the textbooks and least in the curriculum objectives, while responsibility value was mostly included in the objectives, honesty value was not included at all, and the distribution of root values to grade levels and subject areas was not equal. The studies conducted by Ekizce (2023) and Alabay, Can, Kandemir, and Güney (2018) by examining science journals also support the results of this study.

In terms of measurement and evaluation, it was concluded that root values were included in skill-based questions, although there was not a balanced distribution in our study. Teachers are responsible for helping students acquire the implicitly given root values. For this reason, it is important that teachers have knowledge and experience about the acquisition of root values.

In the study of Gündüz and Bağcı (2019), in which the opinions of science teachers on root values were taken, teachers expressed positive opinions about the integration of values education into their lessons and stated that the most important root value desired to be given to students and

associated with the achievements was responsibility. Similarly, in another study in which the views of secondary school teachers and academics on root values were taken, Erbaş et al. (2022) found that the majority of academics did not know the root values, whereas secondary school teachers' knowledge of root values was at a good level, but academics, mostly academics, found the programs insufficient in terms of root values. In the study conducted by Topal (2019), teachers stated that values education activities could not be carried out at a sufficient level and that the value of honesty could be partially given to students. Also, it is among the results obtained in Gündüz and Bağcı's (2019) study that teachers cannot perceive the root values in the achievements and have problems associating them. In this context, as a first step in reconciling the metacognitive skills that the science course aims to provide to individuals with values education, it should be ensured that teachers master values education.

In addition, in the 2024 Turkish Century Education Model Science course draft curriculum values are explicitly included in teaching-learning practices by integrating them with other skills and inter-program relationships (MoNE, 2024). It is thought that the fact that values are at the basis of the new program in the following process, our study will guide how values will be used in science in the process of creating textbooks and implementing programs.

Declarations

Conflict of Interest

No potential conflicts of interest were disclosed by the author(s) with respect to the research, authorship, or publication of this article.

Ethics Approval

As this research was conducted using the document analysis method, it is not one of the studies that requires ethics committee approval.

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Research and Publication Ethics Statement

Hereby, we as the authors consciously assure that for the manuscript "Examination of Skill-Based Questions in the Subject Area of the Science Course 'Living Things and Life' in Terms of Root Values" the following is fulfilled:

- This material is the authors' own original work, which has not been previously published elsewhere. Just, this study was presented as an oral presentation of the conference "11th International Başkent Congress On Social, Humanities, Administrative and Educational Sciences, 8-10 February 2024".
 - The paper reflects the authors' own research and analysis in a truthful and complete manner.
 - The results are appropriately placed in the context of prior and existing research.
 - All sources used are properly disclosed.

Contribution Rates of Authors to the Article

The authors provide equal contribution to this work.

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