

Dear IJRTE Reader,

It is a great pleasure to present the 1st Issue of Volume 1 of International Journal of Research in Teacher Education (IJRTE), which includes the selected papers from the First International Congress of Educational Research organized by Educational Research Association (EAB) in 2009. We are proud to introduce eight articles in this first issue of IJRTE, which we believe will take its place among the respected journals in the field of research in teacher education. I would like to extend my gratefulness to all the authors who submitted their papers to our journal. We are also very grateful to our editorial board members, especially Dr Ece Zehir Topkaya and referees who have contributed greatly with their helpful comments and valuable reviews of new submissions.

Our first paper by Feryal Çubukçu from Dokuz Eylül University, İzmir, Turkey aims to highlight the characteristics of learning goal structures and to show that in the class dynamics it is possible to find that different groups prefer different goal structures and even the same individual may prefer using different structures.

Dursun Yavuz and Aysel Memiş from Zonguldak Karaelmas University, in their study entitled "Investigation of Self-Efficacy Perception and Metacognitive Awareness of Prospective Teachers" try to analyze self-efficacy perceptions of prospective teachers towards teaching profession and their metacognitive awareness related to selecting teaching as a career.

The third article entitled "The Relationship between Behavioral Problems of Primary School Students in Pre-Adolescence Period and Family Functionings" by Firdevs Savi Çakar from Mehmet Akif Ersoy University, Turkey and Rengin Akboy from Dokuz Eylül University, examines the relationship between primary school students' behavior problems and family functionings in early puberty. The results of the study revealed that there is a quite positive relation between adolescents' behavioral problems and family functionings and that as the family functionings become maladaptive, behaviour problems tend to increase.

In her article entitled "The Effect of Worksheets Developed for the Subject of Chemical Compounds on Student Achievement and Permanent Learning" Dilek ÇELİKLER from Ondokuz Mayıs University investigates the effect of worksheets developed for chemical compounds included in General Chemistry class of Science education undergraduate programme in accordance with the constructivist learning theory on academic achievement and permanency. Study results revealed that experimental group students to whom the subject was taught by the use of worksheets were more successful than those to whom subject was taught with traditional instruction method

The final article by İbrahim Demir from Yıldız Technical University, Özer Depren from GENAR Research Company and Serpil Kılıç from Yıldız Technical University investigates the likely cause of the low performance of Turkey in the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA). To do this they measured the efficiency of secondary schools in different regions in Turkey.

And finally we have a book review by Adnan Yılmaz and Sinem Tekir entitled "Practical English Language Teaching" by David Nunan. They conclude that the book is an "amazing resource for students who are just starting their study of ESL teaching and a great refresher or guideline for teachers who have been teaching for a while".

With my best wishes and sincere hope that readers will find the studies in our journal useful.

Prof. Dr. Dinçay Köksal
Editor of IJRTE