

# Action Research for Professional Development

## What is action research?

Action research is a term which refers to a practical way of looking at your own work to check that it is as you would like it to be. Because action research is done by you, the practitioner, it is often referred to as practitioner based research; and because it involves you thinking about and reflecting on your work, it can also be called a form of self-reflective practice.

The idea of self reflection is central. In traditional forms of research – empirical research – researchers do research on other people. In action research, researchers do research on themselves. Empirical researchers enquire into other people's lives. Action researchers enquire into their own. Action research is an enquiry conducted by the self into the self. You, a practitioner, think about your own life and work, and this involves you asking yourself why you do the things that you do, and why you are the way that you are. When you produce your research report, it shows how you have carried out a systematic investigation into your own behaviour, and the reasons for that behaviour. The report shows the process you have gone through in order to achieve a better understanding of yourself, so that you can continue developing yourself and your work.

Action research is open ended. It does not begin with a fixed hypothesis. It begins with an idea that you develop. The research process is the developmental process of following through the idea, seeing how it goes, and continually checking whether it is in line with what you wish to happen. Seen in this way, action research is a form of self evaluation. It is used widely in professional contexts such as appraisal, mentoring and self assessment.

# Sample Action Research Paper

**Ying Liu**



## **Sample Action Research Paper:**

Action Research Craig A. Mertler, 2019-07-16 Action Research Improving Schools and Empowering Educators introduces both novice and experienced practicing educators to the process of designing and conducting classroom based action research in order to make their instructional practices more effective This practical text focuses on the research methods and procedures that educators can use in their everyday instructional practices classroom activities and school procedures Using over 20 years of teaching experience author Craig A Mertler provides insightful coverage of the knowledge and skills needed to design research studies conduct research and communicate findings to relevant stakeholders FREE DIGITAL TOOLS INCLUDED WITH THIS TEXT SAGE edge gives instructors and students the edge they need to succeed with an array of teaching and learning tools in one easy to navigate website **The Action Research Guidebook** Richard D.

Sagor, Charlene Williams, 2016-10-15 Think of yourself as an educational architect Action research is your essential tool for designing and building a better classroom or school You know your students best and by digging deeper into a challenge or research question and then taking informed action you can achieve far more than any cookie cutter curriculum or canned program This empowering introduction to action research is ideal for new and veteran teachers as well as principals counselors and other educators who are committed to school improvement In the third edition of this bestselling guidebook you ll find New insights on how to use reflective practice qualitative and quantitative methods and culturally responsive teaching to improve the success of all students A field tested four stage action research process to lead you from brainstorming to breakthrough with step by step instructions in plain English More illustrative examples charts handouts worksheets and sample action research reports to demystify and simplify the action research process By tapping into the power of action research you can improve overall student performance eliminate achievement gaps and enhance your own efficacy and morale The most successful educators are those that purposefully reflect on their practices with a focus on how and to what degree these practices impact student learning This book provides a four stage structured approach for teachers and administrators to engage in action research with the ultimate goal being to move our schools and classrooms closer to universal student success Eric Carbaugh Associate Professor of Education James Madison University I love the four step model and how it is emphasized throughout the text This approach clearly makes the text unique and a must read for all teachers wanting to enhance their teaching through action research Christopher J Maglio Professor of Education Research Methods and Design Truman State University **You and Your Action Research Project** Jean McNiff, Pamela Lomax, Jack Whitehead, 2004-06 This book gives practical guidance on doing an action research project Written for practitioners across professions who are studying on award bearing courses this book is packed full of useful advice and takes the reader through the various stages of a project including Starting your action research project Monitoring and documenting the action Techniques for dealing with the data Making claims to knowledge and validating them Making your research public creating

your living theory The book's practical approach will appeal to practitioners and will encourage them to try out new strategies for improving their work It will also be essential reading for those resource managers in schools colleges and higher education institutions who are responsible for providing courses and support This second edition of a best selling book has been thoroughly updated and improved by a number of features being more accessible dealing with current debates in literature and demonstrating the power of action research for individual practices

**Improving Schools Through Action Research** Cher Hendricks, 2017 Note This is the bound book only and does not include access to the Enhanced Pearson eText To order the Enhanced Pearson eText packaged with a bound book use ISBN 0134027426 For courses in Action Research A brief user friendly solid look at the action research cycle and the knowledge to work through each step In this book educators learn what they need to know about the action research cycle and get practical help for working through each step of the cycle from choosing a topic and generating research questions to analyzing data and reporting results and conclusions In a clear concise user friendly approach the author helps readers through the entire process with specific practical information that incorporates some of the latest online and professional resources a more detailed explanation of how to analyze and interpret qualitative data and instructions on formatting the research paper using the latest APA guidelines From reviews of the text I've used the Hendricks text for 5 semesters and have modified the course each semester based on a deeper appreciation for the content the text offers The Hendricks text provides an excellent organization and sequence in implementing the process of action research I see the text as a very strong component to my course and to any action research courses offered It helps students to produce a thorough and valuable end product Jill Miels Ball State University

Key strengths are the examples and sample narratives projects threaded through the text provide a unifying connection of applications of the process for teachers The last chapter provides much needed guidance for dissemination of research study results through presentations and publications Reese H Todd Texas Tech University The strength of the text is accessibility and clarity The text takes students through the steps of creating an action research project in clear and concise language Hendricks does an excellent job of providing an appropriate balance of support and challenge for student teachers action researchers Great text for anyone who wants to learn more about constructing their own knowledge and improving schools through action research Jason Colombino Boston College Lynch School of Education Invigorate learning with the Enhanced Pearson eText The Enhanced Pearson eText provides a rich interactive learning environment designed to improve student mastery of content with embedded videos and tutorials The Enhanced Pearson eText is also available without a print version Instructors visit [pearsonhighered.com/etextbooks/ted](http://pearsonhighered.com/etextbooks/ted) to register for your digital examination copy Students register for or purchase your eText at [pearsonhighered.com/etextbooks/ted](http://pearsonhighered.com/etextbooks/ted)

Action Research from Concept to Presentation: a Practical Handbook to Writing Your Master's Thesis Peter K. Lynch, Ryan C. Welch, 2014-07-03 Perhaps the most daunting graduate school requirement is the development of an action research Masters thesis This capstone task requires unprecedented

amounts of time energy and verbiage Designed to take stress out of the thesis writing equation this student friendly comprehensive handbook glides the reader through a 28 step process from developing a focal topic to defending a scholarly thesis Framing each chapter as a one week action assignment the authors have broken down the process into manageable chunks to enable students writers to achieve an immediate sense of completion at every step By using this scaffolding approach the the authors encourage the student researcher to focus on one part of the process rather than the total sometimes overwhelming final product With the exception of the Review of the Literature section which takes several weeks to complete all other thesis sections can and should be timed out for seven days The Authors primary objective was to empower the student researcher to accomplish each of the steps in the process while never losing sight on the product that will help the children in their classrooms Whether developing an Abstract or writing in text citations student researchers are guided throughout the nuances of the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Associations 6th Edition

**Action Research into Teaching English in Russia's Professional Context** Natalia A. Gunina, 2015-10-13 This book is a result of the investigative attempts of linguistics professionals to identify and meet the challenges of developing communicative competence in future engineers economists and other such specialists The unifying feature of all the contributions brought together here is the active involvement of the authors in practical instruction of English for specific professional purposes at the tertiary bachelors and masters programs level in Russia This volume covers a number of relevant areas in this field including new developments in methodology approaches to course and materials design and the contribution of language theory to foreign language teaching in a professional context The unique teaching approach advocated in this book denounces the traditional practice of transferring classical methodology of communicative oriented teaching to language classes for students with a non linguistic or non teaching professional orientation The underlying idea of this volume is that a change in professional context implies a change in language teaching methodology including materials techniques and target competences The ideas and experiences analysed here will appeal to anyone interested in the current trends in foreign language teaching and learning and particularly to educationalists

**Action Research** Patrick J. M. Costello, 2003-12-01 The central purpose of this book is to enable practitioners to undertake and to offer an account of an action research project The volume is divided into seven sections the first six of which are headed by commonly asked questions Having examined the nature of action research Costello focuses on developing an appropriate project data collection and analysis and producing a research report The final selection offers suggestions for further reading

**Action Research for Teacher Candidates** Robert P. Pelton, 2010-10-16 Teachers are the most essential element in a child's success in school Action Research for Teacher Candidates provides teachers in training with the skills needed for action research a process that leads to focused responsive and effective methods that generate success in school for both teachers and students This book provides a formula for data driven results It details a process ensuring high level student achievement [\(Free Sample\)](#)

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