

EDUCATION AND LEARNING SKILLS IN 21ST CENTURY EDUCATIONS

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Abstract

21st century, is an era that focus on the current situation includes in educational context. Educators and students bring an important roles to make sure that they have achieve the need in 21st century educations. And it also enable students to face the challenges in this era which is full with complexity and competitors. While for educators, they have to be master and have sufficient knowledge and skills to teach and guide students to develop education and learning skills in this 21st century. Then, the environment of classroom also bring an affect towards this accomplishment.

Keywords: 21st century, educations, educators, students, learning skills

INTRODUCTION

Step by step, schools from the elementary through high school levels are making the transition to 21st century learning. 21st century learning is usually used to describe the types of capabilities needed by educators and students to succeed in today's world and connected with educational landscape (Bernhardt, 2015). Examples of these skills include digital literacy, cultural competence, creativeness, emotional awareness, entrepreneurship, critical thinking, and problem solving.

In this global world of information, the students must be taught to use and retrieve information ethically and be able to carry out their own perspectives and able to identify the accurate information. They also must be taught on use the social tools with responsibly and safely. Other than that, they need to develop learning skills that will enable them to use technology effectively and use it as an important tool for them to retrieve information accurately from now till to the future.

Besides, educators also should playing their important role in this century. They should create better learning environment for students to attract their interest. They should also mastering the full range of scope their teaching and recognize which teaching method that students preferred most. It is because they are determined to help and guide all the students to reach their full potential and meet the need in 21st century education. Then, they must upgrade their teaching skills and be able to face the challenges in teaching the students in this era.

In this 21st century, technology also bring an important role in educational system. It is because with technology, it can change the world and brings a lot of good outcomes. For example technology can be used as a device to access content on any topic, a tool for thinking and creating, a connection to peers and experts and an instrument to know other cultures. So, it is a time for students to use technology effectively as a powerful and persuasive to learn core subjects and applied their core skills. Technology also enables them to communicate, learn, share, collaborate and create, to think and solve problems, to manage their work wisely and so on (Vockley, n.d.). Technology also important for an educators. It means, educators can use the technology with effectively in their classrooms. It also can support them with professional development. Examples like online training, coaching, collaboration and discussion forums which can help them to implement research based strategies and useful practices that can improve student achievement.

ISSUES

In this paper, we identify several issues regarding educational systems in 21st century. The educational process become more complex with the demand of the educators and students in their education context. Here are some issues that occur in educational system in this century:

- Insufficient training and skills on the educator's job specification
- Students difficult to identify their skills
- Challenges to implement ICT into a classroom

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- How to implement 21st century educations?
- What is the challenges of applying Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in this 21st century educations?

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this paper is to identify the needs of education and learning skills in 21st century, there are our objectives to accomplish:

- To expose the educators and students the flow of current educations
- To support educators and students in their teaching and learning skills

LITERATURE REVIEW AND PROPOSED FRAMEWORK

In term of 21st century learning is commonly used to refer to several core competencies such as collaboration, digital literacy, critical thinking, and problem-solving that all students need to master it. And the schools and educators should take the biggest responsibilities to teach and guide students to be success in today's world. Other than that, 21st century learning is a concept that has been discussed and defined in various ways by several influential organizations that control of most of the policies and practices in educational landscape in the district, state and federal levels. And this 21st century learning is usually used to describe the kind of efficiency needed to thrive in the global landscape of complex and interrelated in nowadays. Examples of these skills include digital literacy, cultural competency, creativity, emotional awareness, entrepreneurship, critical thinking and problem solving (Bernhardt, 2015). However, according to Chu (2014), 21st century skills cover four elements which is learning and innovation skills such as critical thinking and collaboration. Then information, media and technology skills that covers digital literacies and the other elements are life and career skills. And the last one is core subjects that includes reading, writing and arithmetic. And he said all these skills should properly be integrated into the curriculum to measure student's achievements.

In this global world of information, students must be taught to use and retrieve information ethically and be able to carry out their own perspectives and able to identify the accurate information. They also must be taught on use the social tools with responsibly and safely. Other than that, they need to develop learning skills that will enable them to use technology effectively and use it as an important tool for them to retrieve information accurately and develop their core skills from now till to the future. It means 21st century skills represent characteristics that students should have to overcome difficulty and achieve success in any level of education and the workforce (Ball, Joyce & Anderson-Butcher, 2016). However, instruments are needed to assess these important skills such as technology. Information and communication technology (ICT) can be a powerful tool for teaching and learning and it has the potential to act as a main devices for any changes in education scheme (Conneely, Lawlor & Tangney, 2013).

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) generally relates to those technologies that are used for accessing, gathering, manipulating and presenting or communicating information. The technologies could include hardware and software application and connectivity. For an example assessing internet, local networking, infrastructure and video conferencing (Jayapaul & Kumar, 2016). With ICT tools, it enable to help educators to cope up with the changes in the method of teaching and be able to improve the quality of education. Digital literacy, the effectiveness and creativeness by using of ICT tools, is the key to develop the skills for learning needed by all the educators and students. And with using ICT in the classroom instruction, it can give full of satisfaction and increase motivation of the students (Yarriswamy & G.M, 2016).

As known, 21st century is the century that full of complexity and challenges. In this century, the knowledge and skills become important and every people should be prepared to face the demands in this 21st century especially for educators and students. In the past, educators used to be the major source of knowledge, the leader and instructor of their student's school life. They used to be the authority in the class and often took over the role of parents. But in nowadays, educators provide information and show their students how to retrieve and use them effectively. Although they are still considered to be a kind of leader in the class, they can be thought of as facilitators in the learning process and teach the students well so that, they can perform well both at examinations and in life (Babu & Dhanaraju, 2016). The educators also should be creative to approach student's interest (Vaathi, 2016).

Therefore, environment of classroom also can effect to the developing of skills and creativity of the students in 21st century. The classroom can become attractive and beyond the expectation of the students. With classroom environments it can also support student's development of 21st century life and career skills (Ball, Joyce & Anderson-Butcher, 2016). The schools should build a classroom environment based on student's interest and meaningful collaboration is an ideal being promoted by educators and administrators seeking to provide students with 21st century workforce skills (Worrell, Brand & Repenning, 2015).

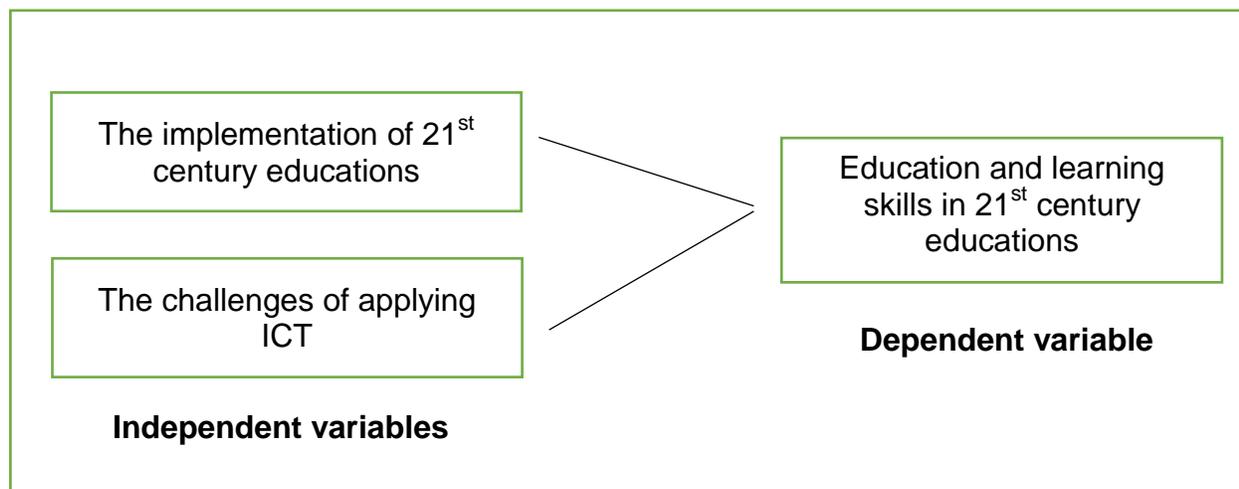


Figure 1. Theoretical Framework.

We proposed a theoretical framework as shown on Figure 1. It is which we focus more on the implementation of 21st century educations and the challenges of applying ICT to achieve the needs of education and learning skills in 21st century. We identify both of these as independent variables because it can be easily control, choose and manipulate. However, at the same time, it also can be something that is already there and it is fixed. And based on the result of the questionnaire that have been disseminate, it can affect towards the dependent variables which is education and learning skills in 21st century educations. And this is what we need to accomplish, to make educators and students achieve the needs in 21st century educations.

CONCLUSIONS

In a nutshell, what can we get from our review is 21st century education is usually used to describe the types of capabilities needed by educators and students to succeed in today's world and connected with educational landscape. Examples of these skills include digital literacy, cultural competence, creativeness, emotional awareness, entrepreneurship, critical thinking, and problem solving. Each educators and students must master with all the capabilities and be knowledgeable to ensure they can be multipurpose person and know how to handle any challenges in a future.

However to achieve the goals in 21st century educations, educators and students must be collaborate and cooperate together to make sure this mission is success to accomplish. Each of them should find alternative to be more knowledgeable, skilful, creative, innovative and etc. They also have to easily adapt with the current changes to make sure they are following the relevant and up-to-date educational system. They also can collaborate to create a good atmosphere during at classes and this can effects each of them which educators can deliver knowledge with appropriately and attractively. While for students they can pay full attention during learning process and this can increase their performance in a classrooms even in outside of classrooms too.

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