

Sample of English Rewrite

Topic: Robotics

Using robots in play-based learning for engineering education of exceptional students

SPECIAL-NEEDS STUDENTS, ROBOTICS, LEARNING PERFORMANCE, LEGO, ENGINEERING EDUCATION, LEARNING-THROUGH-PLAY

Technological applications are proliferating at an exponential rate in the modern world, and the development of effective processes for learning about technology deserves serious attention and inquiry. On the other hand, learning of technology should be paid more attention while technological applications are more wild spread than ever. In the traditional education environment, people-educators typically focusemphasize heavily much more on theoretical learning and on developing the ability to perform standard <u>framing</u> operational procedures. They typically focus far <u>and have</u>less on developing sound engineering thinking and innovative ways to promote learning. And in an effort to make science popular and accessible, science educators often present demonstrations which are intended to engender a sense of fun in the students, rather than to make a serious scientific point or to promote sound scientific inquiry. most science popular demonstrations focus on the sake of fun, sSo the present study Edison Robot Camp was designed —with the intention to add some balance to this situation. would like to solve the above situations. One of the important instructional tools used at the camp was Mindstorms NXT robot modules, a product of the Therefore, The use of Lego EGO company. introduced Mindstroms NXT The robot modules are were used with the intention that the for children tofostermight use their creativity, have an opportunity to assemble a variety of components by themselves and develop a first-hand understanding of the function of motors and sensors. Children were given the task of Finally they can building up their own robots and controlling them by using the Visual Programming Language of Microsoft Robotics Developer Studio platform. By engaging in these activities, cehildren had the opportunity to ean-learn basic simple programming logic and skills to control hardware (Okolo & Ferretti, 1998). By competing against each other with their robots in class, children were given the opportunity to will modify their robots repeatedly to win the race make them more competitive. Through the process of modification and improvement of their robots, the children had the opportunity to and hence improve their knowledge of how to problem solve and how to think as an engineer learning performance (Matarić, 2004; Murphy, 2001).

The target group of the present study for the Edison Robot Camp included normal students and exceptional students (Wang, 2005). Among the exceptional group, there were, which includes students with high-functioning autism, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder and learning disabilities (Hung, 2003). The

<u>forum for the learning experiences was theis Edison Rrobotie Ceamp, which</u> was held in July to August, 2009, in connection withat the science class of Agape Community Center, Wenshan District in Taipei City.

The primary goal of the present studycamp wais to formulate an effective, provide a normal, non-separated education environment for exceptional students. For this reasonOne of the steps taken to achieve this goal was to invite, several special education practitioners were invited to propose a range of appropriate and effective learning environments for special needs children. Out of these discussions came the decision discuss the solution and decided to hold athis robotic camp within the context of an inclusive education methodology. It was postulated that this approach would both enhance the chances for special needs centiler to utilize their special learning talents acould benefit from this kind of inclusive education methodology and to establish new social relationships. The authors camp designers expected that the children would extend ean increase their interests inwith learning science and through working with the technology of robots. It was also expected that the children would improve their, scientific understanding and their thinking ability, And it was expected that wwith hands-on assembly of robots, the children would improve to strengthen their hand-eye coordination. It was anticipated that by having the children work with a number of resources, the camp designers would be able to identify the resources and robotic activities which proved most appropriate and effective and subsequently make them available to the wider school community providing them various kind of resources, in .and look forward to the provision of school learning resources, which means robotics activities in the present study.

II. Course Objectives

Unlike ordinary conventional robot camps, this camp was designed with hands-on robotic activities which were intended to provide opportunities for focused on the observation that exceptional students to develop could enhance their interpersonal relationships, their skills in teamwork, and their abilities in of emotional management through hands on robotics activities. The benefits which the camp designers intended for that this camp to provide was expect for the special needsse students were as follows:

<u>CLet children would extend their understanding of the principles of how to design a robots and, how to use components such as motors and sensors to complete the assigned tasks. To this end, a All students were are expected to apply what they hadve learned after the end of the course and go on toean create an automated robot within a time limit.
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