NMPED Science Curriculum Review of Evidence

Curriculum Name: Living with Science CAI and ClassAct

Publisher: LJ Educational Systems
Number of Studies Submitted: 1
Number of Studies Reviewed: 1
Grade(s) of Studies Reviewed: 1 – 5

Average Rubric Ratings:

Criteria	Average Rating Across All Studies
Experimental Design	0
Sample	0
Methodology	0
Measures	0
Studies	0
Reporting Results	2
Investigators	0
Total Score	2
Average Subscale Score	0.29

Narrative:
Living with Science is computer assisted instruction (CAI) with a variety of units to enhance a science curriculum and ClassAct is a networked computer classroom management technology. These technologies foster skills of scientific methodology through independent computer-aided work weekly or biweekly in a computer lab setting. The reports submitted for review included:

- An instructional design in one elementary school with reference to case studies in several other places. The information gathered for the design document was from classroom observations and teacher interviews. In assessing the instructional design, the evaluation model was from *The Systematic Design of Instruction* with questions about skills transfer, skills used, and training. Conclusions and recommendations were primarily specific to one elementary school's use. No effectiveness study was included; only perceived or anecdotal references were made.
- An evaluation report from a Math, Science, and Technology Partnership project in a school district. The report only mentions CAI generally with no specific study on its use or effectiveness.

Overall Quantity and Quality of Evidence:
References to eight case studies in the report indicate these as success stories and satisfied school districts. They mention such things as a bilingual component, help for students with learning disabilities, improvement of science and independent learning skills, impact on reading skills, and benefits for students with limited English proficiency. There is no evidence provided in the report except for "stories."

References of Submitted Studies:
Alman, M. (2006). Using LJ Educational Systems – Living with Science to Enhance Science Curriculum through Computer Aided Instruction: An Instructional Design

Evaluation Report (Dec. 2006). Math, Science & Technology Partnership: Albuquerque Public Schools