

**Improving the Reading Performance of
 Slow Learners in Selected Primary
 Schools in the Negombo Educational
 Zone through an Optimal Programme
 Including Neuro Linguistic Programming
 in Education**



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Abstract

Slow learners with reading problems in mainstream primary schools in Sri Lanka is currently a serious but much ignored problem in spite of much research conducted in the past. Therefore, it was useful to conduct further research to ascertain the reasons why it continues to be so and to find a successful method to overcome this problem in education. This study aims at examining and developing the second language reading skills of students in selected Primary schools in Negombo. It is based on the theoretical framework of Neuro Linguistic Programming in Education (NLPE) and its adaption in teaching reading skills to students who are identified as slow learners who need a special approach to make them literary competent to fit into the mainstream second language classroom. This research is a Quantitative, Quasi-experimental and a Qualitative study. The quantitative data was analyzed using the SPSS software and qualitative data through content and inductive analysis. The final results indicate that the awareness of teachers, parents and administrators regarding the problems of slow learners in the mainstream classes are not very encouraging and require further enlightenment, the reasons for slow learning and reading difficulties could be attributed to specific reading problems and to a certain degree to socio economic reasons and also that the students and parents had acknowledged that the Neuro Linguistic Programming strategies had been useful to improve the reading skills of the students. As this research was mainly to improve the basic reading skills, it is expected that the results of this study will have a significant impact on further research in using Dynamic NLP strategies to improve reading comprehension, speed reading strategies and to deal with resistance and interferences to learning in slow learners and students with learning disabilities.

Keywords: Slow learners, Learning disabilities, Neuro Linguistic Programming
Reading problems, primary schools