

ABSTRACT

THE EFFECTS OF LOOPING ON THE SENSE OF COMMUNITY OF ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

Looping is defined as a practice where students and teacher progress together through two or more grades. The purpose of this study was to investigate the effects of looping on students' sense of community. This study compared looping students' sense of community with students in traditional classes as measured by The Child Development Project's Students' Sense of School as a Community questionnaire. Gender was also a variable in the study.

Twenty-nine looping students 17 boys and 12 girls, were compared with 30 nonlooping group students, 12 boys and 18 girls. On 4 of the 5 measures there were no statistically significant differences between looping and nonlooping students. A significant interaction was found between gender and looping status with male looping students scoring lower, and female looping students scoring higher than all other groups.

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