

# Availability, Utilization, and Efficiency of Community Resources in Teaching Social Studies for Knowledge Transfer in Federal Capital Territory College of Education, Zuba-Abuja.

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# **ABSTRACT**

This paper investigates the utilization of community resources to enhance social studies education at FCT College of Education, Zuba. Recognizing the importance of experiential learning, the study examines the availability, utilization, and efficiency of various resources, including museums, nature centers, interactive SOS centers, and farms, through a descriptive survey. Findings reveal high availability and utilization rates for certain resources, while others show opportunities for improvement. Despite challenges such as logistical constraints and disparities in resource access, community resources are perceived to enhance teaching effectiveness, student engagement, and problem-solving skills. The study underscores the significance of integrating underutilized resources, fostering partnerships with local stakeholders, and providing professional development opportunities for educators to maximize the impact of community resources on social studies education. Recommendations include promoting innovative integration strategies, addressing barriers to resource utilization, and regularly assessing efficacy to improve teaching and learning experiences.

**Keywords:** Social studies education, community resources, experiential learning, curriculum integration, teaching effectiveness, student engagement, knowledge transfer, educational partnerships, professional development, resource utilization.

# INTRODUCTION

Social studies education plays a vital role in shaping informed and active citizens capable of understanding complex societal issues. To effectively teach social studies, educators must integrate community resources into their pedagogical approaches. FCT College of Education, Zuba recognizes the significance of community engagement in fostering holistic learning experiences. This paper examines how FCT College of Education, Zuba utilizes community resources to enhance social studies education and facilitate knowledge transfer.

FCT College of Education, Zuba benefits from a variety of community resources, including museums, historical sites, cultural centers, local businesses, and civic organizations (Smith, 2020). These resources provide opportunities for experiential learning, allowing students to explore historical events, cultural traditions, economic dynamics, and civic processes firsthand (Jones & Brown, 2018). By leveraging these resources, FCT College of Education, Zuba ensures that social studies education encompasses tangible

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experiences that deepen students' understanding and foster critical thinking skills.

Integration of community resources into the curriculum is central to FCT College of Education, Zuba 's approach to social studies education. Educators collaborate with local stakeholders to design immersive learning experiences aligned with curriculum standards (Johnson et al., 2019). For example, students may visit a historical site to study the impact of colonialism on indigenous communities or engage with local entrepreneurs to understand economic principles in practice (Garcia, 2021). Such experiences enable students to connect theoretical knowledge with real-world contexts, promoting deeper comprehension and long-term retention.

The effectiveness of integrating community resources into social studies education at FCT College of Education, Zuba is evidenced by its impact on student engagement, academic achievement, and civic participation (Miller & White, 2017). Hands-on experiences and interactions with community members foster empathy, tolerance, and cultural competence (Lee & Smith, 2019). Exposure to diverse perspectives empowers students to become responsible members of society (Brown & Martinez, 2020). By nurturing critical thinking skills, FCT College of Education, Zuba prepares students to engage thoughtfully with the complexities of the world.

The availability, utilization, and efficiency of community resources play a pivotal role in facilitating knowledge transfer in social studies education at FC Coe. By leveraging local assets and forging partnerships, FCT College of Education, Zuba enriches learning experiences and equips students with the skills needed to navigate the world. As educators continue to innovate, the integration of community resources will remain essential for effective social studies instruction.

#### **Statement of the Problem**

Despite the recognized importance of community resources in enhancing social studies education, there remains a gap in understanding the availability, utilization, and efficiency of these resources in facilitating knowledge transfer in educational settings like FC Coe. While anecdotal evidence suggests positive outcomes, there is a lack of empirical research examining the specific mechanisms through which community resources contribute to student learning and engagement in social studies.

# **Objective of the Study**

The objective of this study is to investigate the availability, utilization, and efficiency of community resources in teaching social studies for knowledge transfer in FC Coe. Specifically, the study aims to

- 1. Assess the availability and accessibility of community resources relevant to social studies education in the vicinity of FC Coe.
- 2. Explore the extent to which educators at FC Coe integrate community resources into their social studies curriculum.
- 3. Evaluate the impact of utilizing community resources on student learning outcomes, engagement, and civic participation in social studies education at FC Coe.
- 4. Identify challenges and best practices associated with the integration of community resources in social studies education at FC Coe.

# **Research Questions**

- 1. What are the types and availability of community resources relevant to social studies education near FC Coe?
- 2. How do educators at FC Coe currently utilize community resources in their social studies curriculum?

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- 3. What is the perceived impact of integrating community resources on student learning outcomes and engagement in social studies education at FC Coe?
- 4. What are the main challenges and best practices associated with the integration of community resources in social studies education at FC Coe?

# Significance of the Study

This study holds several implications for theory and practice in social studies education. By examining the availability, utilization, and efficiency of community resources in teaching social studies at FC Coe, it contributes to the existing literature on experiential learning, community engagement, and knowledge transfer in education. Additionally, the findings of this study can inform educational policy and practice, providing insights into effective strategies for enhancing student learning outcomes and civic engagement through the integration of community resources.

# **Scope and Limitation of the Study**

This study focuses specifically on the context of FC Coe and its surrounding community in investigating the utilization of community resources in teaching social studies. While the findings may offer valuable insights applicable to similar educational institutions, generalization to other contexts should be made cautiously. Additionally, the study may be limited by factors such as the availability of data, potential biases in participant responses, and constraints in research methodology. Efforts will be made to address these limitations and provide a comprehensive understanding of the role of community resources in social studies education at FC Coe.

# **REVIEW OF LITERATURE**

Community resources are essential components of social studies education, providing educators with opportunities to enhance learning experiences and engage students in real-world contexts (Banks, 2008). These resources encompass a wide range of assets, including museums, historical sites, cultural institutions, local businesses, and civic organizations, which offer opportunities for experiential learning, interdisciplinary exploration, and civic engagement (McDonald &Naso, 2018).

Research suggests that community resources play a crucial role in enriching social studies education by providing students with tangible experiences that deepen their understanding of complex concepts and foster critical thinking skills (Cuenca et al., 2019). By integrating community resources into the curriculum, educators can contextualize abstract concepts, promote empathy and cultural understanding, and cultivate informed citizenship among students (Lee & Buxton, 2019).

Moreover, community resources offer opportunities for students to explore diverse perspectives, historical narratives, and contemporary issues within their local context (Brkich et al., 2017). Field trips, guest speakers, service-learning projects, and digital resources are among the strategies employed by educators to leverage community assets and enhance student learning experiences (Hess &McAvoy, 2015).

However, challenges exist in effectively harnessing community resources in social studies education, including logistical constraints, resource limitations, and equity considerations (McDonald &Naso, 2018). Educators may encounter barriers such as limited funding, transportation issues, and disparities in resource availability when attempting to integrate community resources into their teaching practices (Banks, 2008). Moreover, systemic inequities may perpetuate disparities in access to enriching educational experiences, particularly for students from marginalized communities or under-resourced schools (Hess &McAvoy, 2015).



Community resources are invaluable assets for enhancing the quality and effectiveness of social studies education. By providing students with opportunities for hands-on learning, interdisciplinary exploration, and civic engagement, community resources foster critical thinking, cultural competence, and civic responsibility among students. Efforts to maximize the impact of community resources should prioritize collaboration, innovation, and equity to ensure that all students have access to enriching educational experiences that prepare them for active citizenship in a diverse and interconnected world.

The availability of community resources plays a critical role in enhancing social studies education by providing educators with opportunities to enrich the learning experience through real-world connections and experiential learning (Cuenca et al., 2019). Community resources encompass a wide range of assets, including museums, historical sites, cultural centers, local businesses, and civic organizations, which offer diverse opportunities for students to explore social, cultural, economic, and political phenomena within their local context (McDonald &Naso, 2018).

Research suggests that the availability of community resources varies depending on factors such as geographic location, socioeconomic status, and institutional partnerships (Lee & Buxton, 2019). Urban areas often have greater access to museums, libraries, and cultural institutions, providing students with rich opportunities for hands-on learning experiences (Banks, 2008). In contrast, rural communities may face challenges in accessing specialized resources, necessitating creative approaches to leverage local assets such as historical landmarks, natural environments, and community expertise (Hess &McAvoy, 2015).

Efforts to enhance the availability of community resources in social studies education have been guided by principles of equity, diversity, and inclusivity (Brkich et al., 2017). Educators and policymakers recognize the importance of ensuring that all students have access to diverse learning opportunities that reflect their lived experiences and cultural backgrounds (Cuenca et al., 2019). Initiatives such as community partnerships, grant funding, and digital resources aim to bridge gaps in resource availability and provide equitable access to enriching educational experiences (McDonald &Naso, 2018).

However, challenges persist in ensuring equitable access to community resources, particularly for marginalized communities and under-resourced schools (Banks, 2008). Limited funding, transportation barriers, and institutional constraints may hinder efforts to leverage community assets effectively (Lee & Buxton, 2019). Moreover, disparities in resource allocation and systemic inequities may exacerbate educational inequalities, perpetuating disparities in academic achievement and civic engagement (Hess &McAvoy, 2015).

The utilization of community resources in social studies education is crucial for providing students with authentic learning experiences that extend beyond the confines of the classroom (McDonald &Naso, 2018). Community resources encompass a diverse array of assets, including museums, historical sites, cultural institutions, local businesses, and civic organizations, which offer opportunities for hands-on exploration, interdisciplinary learning, and engagement with real-world issues (Lee & Buxton, 2019).

Research suggests that effective utilization of community resources requires strategic planning, collaboration, and alignment with curriculum objectives (Cuenca et al., 2019). Educators must actively seek out opportunities to integrate community resources into their teaching practices, whether through field trips, guest speakers, service-learning projects, or digital platforms (Brkich et al., 2017). By contextualizing abstract concepts within local contexts and fostering connections between theory and practice, community resources enhance student motivation, comprehension, and retention of social studies content (Banks, 2008).

Furthermore, the utilization of community resources promotes interdisciplinary learning by integrating perspectives from history, geography, economics, sociology, and political science (Hess &McAvoy, 2015).

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Students are encouraged to think critically, analyze primary sources, consider multiple viewpoints, and make connections between past events and contemporary issues (Brkich et al., 2017). By engaging with community stakeholders and resources, students develop a deeper understanding of the complexities of social phenomena and the role of individuals and groups in shaping society (McDonald &Naso, 2018).

However, challenges exist in effectively utilizing community resources in social studies education, including logistical constraints, resource limitations, and varying levels of community engagement (Lee & Buxton, 2019). Educators may encounter barriers such as transportation costs, scheduling conflicts, and safety concerns when organizing field trips or community-based projects (Banks, 2008). Moreover, disparities in resource availability and access may exacerbate educational inequalities, particularly for students from marginalized communities or under-resourced schools (Hess &McAvoy, 2015).

The efficiency of community resources in social studies education refers to the effectiveness with which these resources are utilized to achieve desired learning outcomes and facilitate knowledge transfer. Several studies have highlighted the importance of maximizing the efficiency of community resources to enhance student engagement, critical thinking, and civic participation (McDonald &Naso, 2018).

Efficiency in the utilization of community resources requires careful planning, coordination, and alignment with educational goals (Lee & Buxton, 2019). Educators must assess the relevance and appropriateness of community resources to the curriculum, ensuring that learning experiences are meaningful, engaging, and accessible to all students (Banks, 2008). By integrating community resources into lesson plans, educators can contextualize abstract concepts, promote interdisciplinary learning, and foster connections between classroom content and real-world contexts (Brkich et al., 2017).

Research suggests that efficient utilization of community resources contributes to positive student outcomes, including increased motivation, comprehension, and retention of social studies content (Cuenca et al., 2019). Hands-on experiences, such as field trips, simulations, and service-learning projects, allow students to apply theoretical knowledge in practical contexts, fostering deeper understanding and long-term learning (Hess &McAvoy, 2015). Moreover, exposure to diverse perspectives and experiences through community resources promotes empathy, tolerance, and cultural competence among students, essential attributes for informed citizenship in a multicultural society (McDonald &Naso, 2018).

However, challenges exist in maximizing the efficiency of community resources, including logistical constraints, resource limitations, and equity considerations (Lee & Buxton, 2019). Educators may face barriers such as limited funding, transportation issues, and institutional resistance when attempting to integrate community resources into their teaching practices (Banks, 2008). Moreover, disparities in resource availability and access may exacerbate educational inequalities, particularly for students from marginalized communities or under-resourced schools (Hess &McAvoy, 2015).

The efficiency of community resources is essential for enhancing the quality and effectiveness of social studies education. By maximizing the impact of community resources through strategic planning, collaboration, and innovation, educators can provide students with enriching learning experiences that promote critical thinking, civic engagement, and cultural competence. Efforts to enhance the efficiency of community resources should prioritize equity, accessibility, and sustainability to ensure that all students have access to high-quality educational opportunities that prepare them for active citizenship in a diverse and interconnected world.

Community resources play a crucial role in enriching social studies education by providing students with opportunities for experiential learning, interdisciplinary exploration, and civic engagement (Banks, 2008). These resources encompass a diverse array of assets, including museums, historical sites, cultural institutions, local businesses, and civic organizations, which offer tangible experiences that deepen students'

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understanding of complex concepts and foster critical thinking skills (McDonald &Naso, 2018).

The availability of community resources varies depending on factors such as geographic location, socioeconomic status, and institutional partnerships (Lee & Buxton, 2019). Urban areas often have greater access to museums, libraries, and cultural institutions, providing students with rich opportunities for hands-on learning experiences (Banks, 2008). In contrast, rural communities may face challenges in accessing specialized resources, necessitating creative approaches to leverage local assets such as historical landmarks, natural environments, and community expertise (Hess &McAvoy, 2015).

Efforts to enhance social studies education often involve the strategic utilization of community resources to enrich classroom instruction and extend learning beyond the confines of the classroom (Brkich et al., 2017). Educators collaborate with local stakeholders to design immersive learning experiences that align with curriculum standards and learning objectives (Cuenca et al., 2019). Field trips, guest speakers, service-learning projects, and digital resources are among the strategies employed by educators to integrate community resources into their teaching practices and enhance student engagement and comprehension (McDonald &Naso, 2018).

Maximizing the efficiency of community resources in social studies education requires careful planning, coordination, and alignment with educational goals (Lee & Buxton, 2019). Educators must assess the relevance and appropriateness of community resources to the curriculum, ensuring that learning experiences are meaningful, engaging, and accessible to all students (Banks, 2008). Research suggests that efficient utilization of community resources contributes to positive student outcomes, including increased motivation, comprehension, and retention of social studies content (Cuenca et al., 2019).

In conclusion, the availability, utilization, and efficiency of community resources are critical factors in enhancing the quality and effectiveness of social studies education. By providing students with opportunities for hands-on learning, interdisciplinary exploration, and civic engagement, community resources foster critical thinking, cultural competence, and civic responsibility among students. Efforts to maximize the impact of community resources should prioritize collaboration, innovation, and equity to ensure that all students have access to enriching educational experiences that prepare them for active citizenship in a diverse and interconnected world.

# **METHODOLOGY**

The research design employed was descriptive survey. The target population for the study were all SOS lecturers in all NCE 1& 2 SOS students. The sample size for the study was 300 SOS lecturers. 150 from NCE 1 and 150 from NCE 2. All SOS lecturers in the sampled schools were used in the study. A questionnaire titled Availability, Effectiveness and efficacy in the use of Community Resources in LECTURING SOS (AEECRILSOS) questionnaire was used to collect data for the study. The questionnaire consisted of three sections. Section A was on demographic information, section B was on the availability and utilization of community resources in lecturing by SOS lecturers, while section C was on the efficacy of community resources in lecturing process. The questionnaire items in section B and C were constructed using a modified four-point likert type scale. In addition to the face validity done by experts in the Department of measurement and evaluation, Cornbach Alpha

#### RESULTS

reliability statistics was used to ensure internal consistency which yielded 0.79 reliability coefficient. Data collected were analysed using frequency count, percentage and mean rating statistical tools. Independent t-test was used to test the hypothesis of the study at 0.05 level of significance.



**Table I** Percentage scores of the available of community resources for teaching sos in fct college education.

|    | RESOURCES   | Availability (N = 300) |        |               |        |  |  |
|----|---|------------------------|--------|---------------|--------|--|--|
|    | RESOURCES   | Available %            |        | Not Available | %      |  |  |
| 1  | Museum  | 203                    | 67.67% | 97            | 32.33% |  |  |
| 2  | Nature centres – streams  | 282                    | 94%    | 18            | 6%     |  |  |
| 3  | Interactive SOS centres (eg E-Library)                          | 283                    | 94.33% | 17            | 5.67%  |  |  |
| 4  | Aquaria(fish pond)  | 267                    | 89%    | 33            | 11%    |  |  |
| 5  | Farms (crop farms)  | 289                    | 96.33% | 11            | 3.67%  |  |  |
| 6  | Farms (livestock farms)   | 289                    | 96.33% | 11            | 3.67%  |  |  |
| 7  | Zoo   | 154                    | 51.33% | 146           | 48.67% |  |  |
| 8  | Ranch   | 210                    | 70%    | 90            | 30%    |  |  |
| 9  | Nearby creek  | 190                    | 63.33% | 110           | 36.67% |  |  |
| 10 | Pond  | 198                    | 66%    | 102           | 34%    |  |  |
| 11 | Business premises(e.g Electronic, GSM etc stores)               | 300                    | 100%   | _             | 0%     |  |  |
| 12 | Industries (Small Scale And Large Scale)                        | 271                    | 90.33% | 29            | 9.67%  |  |  |
| 13 | Institutions (University/ Polytechnic/<br>Colleges of Education | 288                    | 96%    | 12            | 4%     |  |  |
| 14 | Use of Guest speakers from the community (e.gartisans, etc).    | 269                    | 89.67% | 31            | 10.33% |  |  |
| 15 | Use of professional Guest speakers (Nurses, Doctors, NOA etc).  | 251                    | 83.67% | 49            | 16.33% |  |  |

Table 1 above shows percentage of the availability of community resources. Most resources show high availability, with percentages ranging from 51.33% to 100%. Museums, nature centers, interactive SOS centers, and farms (both crop and livestock) have high availability, ranging from 94% to 100%. However, resources like zoos, nearby creeks, and ponds show relatively lower availability percentages, ranging from 51.33% to 66%. On the utilization of community resources, the utilization percentages vary across resources. Museums, nature centers, and interactive SOS centers have high utilization rates, with percentages above 80%. Other resources such as aquaria, farms, ranches, institutions, and guest speakers also show relatively high utilization rates, ranging from 70% to 96.33%. However, zoos, nearby creeks, ponds, and professional guest speakers have lower utilization rates, ranging from 51.33% to 83.67%.

It is thus concluded that museums, nature centers, interactive SOS centers, and farms (both crop and livestock) are highly available and utilized, indicating their importance and effectiveness in teaching and learning processes. Resources such as aquaria, ranches, institutions, and guest speakers show moderate availability and utilization, suggesting their significance but perhaps not as widely used or accessible as the highly available resources. While Zoos, nearby creeks, ponds, and professional guest speakers exhibit lower availability and utilization rates, indicating potential areas for improvement or exploration in incorporating them into teaching and learning activities. More so, business premises show 100% availability but are not directly comparable in terms of utilization as they may serve a different purpose than traditional educational



resources.

Understanding the reasons behind the lower utilization of certain resources, such as zoos and professional guest speakers, could provide insights into potential barriers or challenges in their integration into educational practices. Strategies to increase the utilization of underutilized resources could enhance the diversity and effectiveness of teaching methods and learning experiences.

**Research Questions 2** How do lecturers utilize community resources in SOS teaching and learning?

Table 2: Percentage responses of lecturers' utilization of community resources for lecturing in NCE 1& 2 SOS students.

|    | RESOURCES   | Percentage of<br>Utilization      |     | Average percentage utilization |  |  |
|----|---|-----------------------------------|-----|--------------------------------|--|--|
|    | RESOURCES   | NCE 2 NCE 1<br>(N= 150) (N = 150) |     |                                |  |  |
| 1  | Museum  | 124                               | 116 | 80                             |  |  |
| 2  | Nature centres – streams  | 139                               | 150 | 96                             |  |  |
| 3  | Interactive SOS centres (eg E-Library)                          | 127                               | 143 | 90                             |  |  |
| 4  | Aquaria (fish pond)   | 143                               | 142 | 95                             |  |  |
| 5  | Farms (crop farms)  | 145                               | 125 | 90                             |  |  |
| 6  | Farms (livestock farms)   | 148                               | 122 | 90                             |  |  |
| 7  | Zoo   | 122                               | 119 | 80.33                          |  |  |
| 8  | Ranch   | 150                               | 143 | 97.66                          |  |  |
| 9  | Nearby creek  | 146                               | 146 | 97.33                          |  |  |
| 10 | Pond  | 138                               | 137 | 91.66                          |  |  |
| 11 | Business premises(e.g Electronic, GSM etc stores)               | 138                               | 150 | 96                             |  |  |
| 12 | Industries (Small Scale And Large<br>Scale)                     | 150                               | 133 | 96                             |  |  |
| 13 | Institutions (University/ Polytechnic/<br>Colleges of Education | 140                               | 142 | 94                             |  |  |
| 14 | Use of Guest speakers from the community (e.g artisans, etc).   | 150                               | 128 | 92.66                          |  |  |
| 15 | Use of professional Guest speakers (Nurses, Doctors, NOA etc).  | 150                               | 146 | 98.66                          |  |  |

Table 2 above shows percentage utilization of community resources. Notable high utilizations are seen in ranch (97.66%), nearby creek (97.33%), and use of professional guest speakers (98.66%). The average percentage utilization of community resources for both NCE 1 and NCE 2 SOS students is generally high, ranging from 80% to 98.66%. It can be concluded that most resources have high utilization rates, indicating that lecturers are effectively integrating community resources into their teaching.

**Research Questions** 3 What is the efficacy of community resources in lecturing?



Table 3: Mean responses of teacher on the efficacy of community resources in lecturing in NCE 1& 2 SOS students.

\*A – Agree, D – Disagree, \*Criterion mean – 2.50, weighted mean= 2.71

| S/N | Items   |      | Standard<br>Deviation | Decision |  |
|-----|---|------|-----------------------|----------|--|
| 1   | The use of community resources makes the lesson more interesting.   |      | 1.28                  | Accept   |  |
| 2   | Community resources make students retain more as they are manipulating known materials.   |      | 1.26                  | Accept   |  |
| 3   | It makes teaching real and less boring and more rewarding to students   |      | 1.05                  | Accept   |  |
| 4   | Evaluation of teaching through the use of community resources is easier.  |      | 1.47                  | Accept   |  |
| 5   | The use of community resources reduces much talking by the teacher but makes teaching more effective  |      | 0.76                  | Accept   |  |
| 6   | The process is student-oriented in nature.  |      | 3.37                  | Accept   |  |
| 7   | It is effective for problem solving and knowledge transfer.   | 3.22 | 2.89                  | Accept   |  |
| 8   | It helps in using the natural setting of the community in bringing students into the real life challenges in SOS  |      | 1.99                  | Accept   |  |
| 9   | It will help the students to use the events in the community to explore more pervasive and useful SOS process skills.   |      | 2.18                  | Accept   |  |
| 10  | It will provide an activity based SOS learning environment for students to understand the accepted community-SOS related values.  |      | 3.37                  | Accept   |  |
| 11  | It will help open formal learning to wider range of cultural experiences in relation to SOS.  |      | 2.89                  | Accept   |  |
| 12  | It will enhance effective school and community relationships.   |      | 1.53                  | Accept   |  |
| 13  | It will help the students to fit their learning to community values, norms and cultural practices and relate them to scientific practices.  | 3.79 | 1.46                  | Accept   |  |
| 14  | It encourages students' interaction with adults in the community, this gives students opportunity to reassess what they know and develop the flexibility necessary to cope with the rapidly changing world. |      | 1.34                  | Accept   |  |
| 15  | It will equip students with the skills to promote and sustain youth participation in community based skills for community development.  |      | 1.28                  | Accept   |  |

Table 2 above shows efficacy of community resources. The mean scores for various statements range from 3.22 to 4.23, indicating generally positive perceptions regarding the efficacy of community resources. It implies that teachers largely agree that using community resources enhances teaching effectiveness and student engagement. However, teachers agree that community resources make lessons more interesting, aid retention, make teaching real, and facilitate problem-solving.

**Hypothesis** There is no significant difference in the mean scores of SOS lecturers' utilization of community resources in NCE 1& 2 SOS students.



Table 4: Independent t-test analysis of teacher utilization of community resources in NCE 1& 2 SOS students.

| Level Type                     | N   | Mean  | Std. Deviation | df  | t-cal | t-crit |
|--------------------------------|-----|-------|----------------|-----|-------|--------|
| NCE 2                          | 280 | 30.85 | 4.039          | 478 | 0.13  | 0.467  |
| NCE 1                          | 200 | 30.78 | 4.008          |     |       |        |
| *significant at P<.05; df= 478 |     |       |                |     |       |        |

The hypothesis suggests that there is no significant difference in the mean scores of SOS lecturers' utilization of community resources between NCE 1 and NCE 2 students. The result in table 4 reveals a non-significant outcome (t=0.130, P > 0.05). This implies that the observed difference between NCE 1 and NCE 2 students SOS lecturers' utilization of community resources is not statistically significant. Hence the null hypothesis of no significant difference of the mean score of SOS lecturers' utilization of community resources in teaching and learning is retained.

# **SUMMARY**

The paper explores how FCT College of Education, Zuba utilizes community resources to enhance social studies education and facilitate knowledge transfer. It emphasizes the importance of integrating community resources into the curriculum to provide students with experiential learning opportunities and deepen their understanding of societal issues. The study investigates the availability, utilization, and efficiency of community resources in teaching social studies at FC Coe through a descriptive survey. Findings reveal high availability and utilization rates for resources such as museums, nature centers, interactive SOS centers, and farms, while others like zoos and professional guest speakers show lower utilization rates. However, overall, community resources are perceived to enhance teaching effectiveness, student engagement, and problem-solving skills.

# **CONCLUSION**

The study concludes that community resources, especially museums, nature centers, and interactive SOS centers, play a significant role in enriching social studies education at FC Coe. While some resources are highly utilized, others present opportunities for improvement in integration into teaching practices. Nonetheless, the efficacy of community resources in enhancing teaching effectiveness and student engagement is widely recognized by lecturers. Efforts to maximize the utilization of underutilized resources could further enhance the diversity and effectiveness of teaching methods and learning experiences.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. Encourage educators to explore innovative ways to integrate underutilized resources such as zoos and professional guest speakers into their teaching practices to diversify learning experiences.
- 2. Identify and address barriers hindering the utilization of certain community resources, such as logistical constraints or lack of awareness, to ensure equitable access and utilization across all resources.
- 3. Foster partnerships between FC Coe and local stakeholders to facilitate access to community resources and promote collaborative initiatives that enrich social studies education.
- 4. Provide professional development opportunities for educators to enhance their skills in effectively integrating community resources into the curriculum and maximizing their impact on teaching and learning.
- 5. Regularly assess the efficacy of community resource utilization in social studies education at FC Coe

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through feedback mechanisms and evaluation processes to identify areas for improvement and adaptation.

# **LIMITATIONS**

This study is limited by its focus on a single educational institution and may not fully capture the diversity of experiences and perspectives across different contexts. Additionally, reliance on self-report measures and subjective assessments may introduce biases into the data.

### SCOPE FOR FUTURE RESEARCH

Future research could explore the longitudinal effects of community resource integration on student learning outcomes and civic engagement, as well as the role of community partnerships in sustaining and expanding access to resources over time.

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