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**EDLD 5315**

## **Action Research Design Outline**

### **What is the topic of your action research?**

My action research topic will be focused on how the integration of the COVA framework can affect student engagement through things such as ePortfolios and project based learning opportunities in the elementary classroom. With the access to technology today, and the change in student engagement after the pandemic, I'd like to see how using COVA impacts their engagement.

### **What is the purpose of your study?**

The purpose of my study is to give teachers insight into how COVA can help them get students more engaged in their learning, increase participation, interest and allow them to be creative in their learning and thinking.

### **What is your fundamental research question?**

How does the implementation of the COVA framework in an elementary classroom impact student engagement?

### **What is your research design (Qualitative, Quantitative, or Mixed Methods)?**

My research design is going to be utilizing the qualitative research method.

### **Why did you choose this design?**

I chose this design because I think I think using the qualitative research method will allow me to get the info from the source, the students. I believe that because much of getting them engaged through PBL and ePortfolios involves real world situations and experiences, using this method would be best by using observations and interviewing them. Plus, I think because I'm focusing on student engagement, looking at the data wouldn't give information that would benefit this study. This will be something that can be observed and tracked throughout the year.

### **What is the most appropriate type of data to collect?**

The data I will collect on student engagement will be gathered through observations, informal interviews and small group discussions I will be holding with varied age groups in grades 3rd-5th. Since the students are already used to me sitting in on their classes, conducting observations and gathering genuine data should be easy. I plan to use small group discussions, and since my focus is elementary students, having them in small groups may prove to be more effective and give them confidence to share. I will be ensuring that every student has the opportunity to speak (Mertler, 2014).

**What types of measurement will you use?**

I will use field notes when I do my classroom observations, as well as guiding interview questions to obtain my data when meeting with the focus groups. For the conclusion of my research, I would like to survey teachers to get additional data from them.

**What is the focus of your literature review?**

The focus of my lit review will be based on introducing teachers to an ePortfolio, its uses in the elementary classroom and the benefits to creating lasting engagement and successful learning. The primary focus of the literature review will be the effects of integrating ePortfolios as lifelong learning tools for growth and development.

**References:**

Mertler, C. A. (2014). *Action Research: Improving Schools and Empowering Educators*. SAGE Publications, Incorporated.