

Educational Research: Definition, Characteristics, and Importance

What is Scientific Research?

Scientific research is a systematic and rigorous process of inquiry that aims to discover new knowledge or to test existing knowledge. It is based on the collection, analysis, and interpretation of data. Scientific research is typically conducted by scientists, but it can also be conducted by other professionals, such as engineers, doctors, and social scientists.

Characteristics of Educational Research:

- **Systematic:** Educational research is conducted using a systematic and rigorous process that involves clearly defined goals, methods, and data analysis procedures.
- **Empirical:** Educational research is based on empirical evidence, which is data collected through observation or experimentation.
- **Objective:** Educational research strives to be objective and unbiased, avoiding personal opinions or beliefs.
- **Generalizable:** Educational research aims to produce findings that can be generalized to other settings or populations.

Importance of Educational Research:

Educational research is important for several reasons:

- It provides evidence-based support for educational practice and policy.
- It helps to identify and address educational problems.
- It contributes to the development of new and innovative educational approaches.
- It informs the professional development of educators.
- It promotes accountability and transparency in education.

Examples of Educational Research:

- A study that investigates the effects of a new teaching method on student achievement.
- A study that examines the factors that influence teacher motivation.
- A study that evaluates the impact of school choice on student outcomes.

Conclusion:

Educational research is an essential component of any educational system. By providing evidence-based support for educational practice and policy, it helps to ensure that all students have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

References:

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