

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF BOTH COMPUTED MIND MAPS STRATEGY AND COCEPTS MAPS STRATEGY IN DEVELOPPING THE SKILLS OF CREATIVE THINKING IN THE CURRICULUM OF SOCIAL AND NATIONAL STUDIES AT THE STUDENTS OF 3RD GRADE, MIDDLE SCHOOL

LAYLA M. S. AL-BALAWI

MAHMOUD J. BANI FARIS

Associate Professor of Social Studies Curricula and Teaching Methodology
Faculty of Education, Taibah University

ABSTRACT _The current study aimed at identifying the effectiveness of both computed mind maps strategy and cocepts maps strategy in developping the skills of creative thinking in the curriculum of social and national studies at the students of 3rd grade, middle school. The researcher has prepared the Creative Thinking Test to achieve the objective of the study, which measures the skills of fluency, flexibility and originality. The teacher's guide has been prepared according to computed mind maps strategy, and teacher's guide of concepts maps in unit two (The History of My Country) in the curriculum of Social and National Studies, in the book of 3rd grade, middle school, 1st semester. The quasi-experimental research method has been applied which based on designing three groups; first experimental group (A) that studied by using the computed mind maps strategy, where there were 25 students. The second experimental group (B) that studied by using the concepts maps strategy, where there were 25 students. The third experimental group (C) that studied by using the traditional way , where there were 25 students. The study tool (Creative Thinking Test) has been applied on the study sample pre and post. The results were statistically extracted by using SPSS program, where Measures of Central Tendency (Arithmetic means, Standard Deviations, One-Way Analysis of Variance (ANOVA), Cronbach's Alpha) have been used. The study results showed that there were statistically significant differences at the level of (0.05) between the students' average marks when using the computed mind maps strategy and concepts maps strategy in developing the skills of fluency, flexibility and originality and in developing the creative thinking skills as a whole and the students' averages of the control group in the curriculum of Social and National Studies at the students of 3rd Grade, middle school and this was for the two experimental groups. The researcher recommended that studies of identifying the effectiveness of both computed mind maps strategy and cocepts maps strategy in developping the skills of creative thinking in the curricula of different subjects like maths and science should be applied and in different grades as 1st and 2nd , middle school. Also the researcher suggested that applying the study should be done to develop the other skills of thinking like criticism and contemplation. he researcher suggested, as well, doing studies which handle the effectiveness of using the computed mind maps strategy with another teaching strategy in developing the creative thinking and doing a study which handles using the concepts maps strategy with another teaching strategy in developing the creative thinking and also doing a study handling the exploring the teachers' attitudes towards using computed mind maps and concept maps.

KEY WORD: Computed Mind Maps, Cocepts Maps, Skills of Creative Thinking, Curriculum of Social and National Studies.