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A STUDY OF COMPUTER LITERACY IN URBAN AND RURAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS

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ABSTRACT

Literacy is not just the ability to read and write. It extends to effective application of all those activities in which literacy is normally assumed. Such application could be on computer, hence the terminology, 'computer literacy'. According to the Psychology Wiki, the definition of computer literacy varies from group to group and could mean the knowledge and ability to use computers and technology efficiently; the comfort level someone has with using computer programs and other applications that are associated with computers; knowing how computers work and operate; or having basic computer skills. Computer literacy not only associates with computer awareness, but also extends to ability to tell a computer what to do and understand when it is done. It is, therefore, a skill that enables an individual enjoy the potentials of ICT, a subject classified as a global resolution, and of great significance to all humanity. Undoubtedly, ICT is one of the greatest change agents of this century, and promises to play this role even more dramatically in the coming decades. It is changing every aspect of human activity including communication, trade, manufacturing, services, culture, entertainment, education, research, national defense and global security. Teachers realize the tremendous potential computer technology can bring to teaching and learning. Most of the developed countries have exploited the potentials of ICT to transform their educational landscape at tertiary, secondary and even primary levels particularly through the instructional process. Generally, ICT holds out the opportunity to revolutionize pedagogical methods, expand access to quality education, and improve the management of education systems. In Nigeria, ICT is further seen as an opportunity to overcome historical disabilities and once again become the master of her destiny, a tool that will enable Nigeria to achieve the goal of becoming a strong, prosperous and self-confident nation.

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