

Purpose?

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Definition

Action research has many definitions. Simply put, action research is where the researcher is directly involved in the inquiry. The researcher is participating, reflecting, assessing and reengaging the question while being part of the process.

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What is the aim of research?

This comes directly from McNiff, J. (2016). You and your action research project (4th ed.) [4th]. Retrieved January 23, 2017, from www.eblib.com

All research aims to:

- discover and create knowledge and make claims to that knowledge
- test validity of knowledge claims
- generate new theory (I can explain what I know and how I have come to know it) [p17] McNiff]
- share and disseminate findings

Asking specific questions that will guide theory into practice creating reflections and new knowledge!

Some specific questions that can lead to taking responsibility for ourselves as teacher/researcher and in developing knowledge that is valid and subjective can be found in McNiff pg. 23. Some lead ins are:

- How do I...
- How do we...understand my practice better, help you learn, contribute to a wider body of knowledge
- I wonder what would happen if...
- Is it possible to...

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The Action

The action is how does the research/ teacher/me fit into and participate in the inquiry? How can we generate knowledge? How can we collect information that is viable and can create more questions? The action connects the epistemology to the agency in a series of steps that McNiff goes into detail on pg.51.

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The Research

The research is the data and knowledge that is created from the action.

The research collects, analyzes the data and reflects on the next steps. The knowledge then creates the stepping stones for the next action that needs to take place.

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Who is involved?

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Everyone is involved. That is the entire point of action research, it is participatory and collaborative!

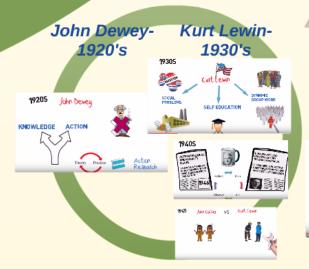
The who can be the teacher, the students, other teachers, support staff, admin, parents and caregivers, the community, and anyone else that is part of the education of the learners!

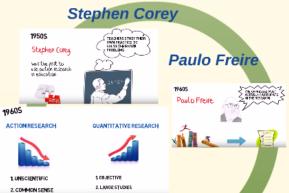
Where did Action Research come from?

Marian Lowry presents the History of Action Research from 190-present.

Watch it here or, check out the screen shots below.

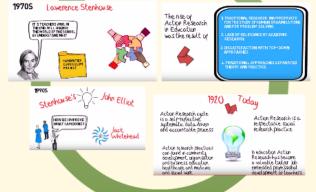
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3. DIVISION BETWEEN RESEACHER

Lawerence Stenhouse, John Elliot & Jack Whitehead



Vocabulary

- Interrogation
- Deconstruction
- De-centering
- Reflection
- Evaluation
- Participation
- Improving
- Changing

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