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| Journal Name: | [**Asian Journal of Education and Social Studies**](https://journalajess.com/index.php/AJESS) |
| Manuscript Number: | **Ms\_AJESS\_137127** |
| Title of the Manuscript: | **The Use of Project LEAP (Literacy Engagement and Advancement Program) in Enhancing the Reading Performance of Learners in Kabugao Central School** |
| Type of the Article |  |

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| **PART 1: Comments** | | |
|  | **Reviewer’s comment**  **Artificial Intelligence (AI) generated or assisted review comments are strictly prohibited during peer review.** | **Author’s Feedback** (It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here) |
| **Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.** | This study addresses a critical issue in elementary education: the reading proficiency of struggling learners. By evaluating the effectiveness of Project LEAP, the paper contributes meaningful insights into intervention-based literacy development, particularly in underserved or rural educational contexts. The use of a mixed-methods design strengthens the study’s contribution, offering both statistical evidence and learner perspectives. This research is timely and relevant, aligning with global education goals focused on foundational literacy skills. |  |
| **Is the title of the article suitable?**  **(If not please suggest an alternative title)** | The current title is mostly suitable but could be refined for clarity.  **Suggested Title**: *“Evaluating the Impact of Project LEAP on the Reading Performance of Elementary Learners: A Mixed-Methods Study in Kabugao Central School”* |  |
| **Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here.** | The abstract is mostly comprehensive. It clearly outlines the study's objective, methodology, key findings, and implications.  **Suggestions**:   * Remove repetitive phrases like “Project LEAP significantly enhanced…” which appear twice. * Consider adding one sentence explaining what makes Project LEAP distinct (i.e., what activities or strategies it includes). * Mention the mixed-methods nature more explicitly to showcase methodological rigor. |  |
| **Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here.** | Yes, the study is scientifically correct. The methods used (pretest-posttest, t-test, thematic analysis) are appropriate and well-described. |  |
| **Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.** | The citations are sufficient and include key scholarly works. However, the study could be improved by integrating more recent references (post-2020) to support the intervention rationale or engagement theory.   * *Suggested additional reference*:   + Guthrie, J. T., Klauda, S. L., & Ho, A. N. (2019). **Modeling the relationships among reading instruction, motivation, engagement, and achievement for adolescents.** *Reading Research Quarterly*, 54(2), 253–273. https://doi.org/10.1002/rrq.235 |  |
| **Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?** | The paper is readable but would benefit from professional proofreading to correct grammatical inconsistencies, especially in the introduction and literature review. Issues include awkward phrasing, verb tense shifts, and  redundant sentence structures. |  |
| **Optional/General** comments |  |  |

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| **PART 2:** | | |
|  | **Reviewer’s comment** | **Author’s Feedback** (It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here) |
| **Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?** | *(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in detail)*  No significant ethical concerns are identified. |  |

**Reviewer details:**

**Melissa Mustika, National Central University, Taiwan**