

**THE EFFECT OF COOPERATIVE LEARNING ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF
LEARNERS' SCIENCE PROCESS SKILLS: A CASE STUDY**

by

MASHAPA ALPHEUS RAPUDI

**submitted in part fulfilment of the requirements for
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SUPERVISOR: PROF E O MASHILE

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Student number: 732-274-7

I declare that **THE EFFECT OF COOPERATIVE LEARNING ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF LEARNERS' SCIENCE PROCESS SKILLS: A CASE STUDY** is my own work and that all the sources that I have used or quoted have been indicated and acknowledged by means of complete references.

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SIGNATURE

(Mr M A Rapudi)

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DATE

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SUMMARY

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This study was motivated by the lack of in-service training in cooperative learning and science process skills whereas both are emphasized in the new natural sciences curriculum. The aims of the study were to determine the influence of cooperative learning on the development of science process skills.

Two classes were selected from two rural schools for inclusion as case studies of this research. These classes were taught using the Jigsaw and Group Investigation methods of cooperative learning respectively. Pre- and post-tests were administered on the two classes and the influence of these methods on learners' achievement on four process skills were determined. Mixed results were found with regard to the influence of the two cooperative learning methods on the development of learners' process skills of observation, controlling variables, graphing and experimenting.

KEY WORDS

Cooperative learning

Science process skills

Group investigation method

Jigsaw method

Observation

Controlling variables

Graphing

Experimenting

Natural sciences

Science achievement