



Building Communication Confidence with Professional Development

WGU Capstone
M.E.D Instructional Design

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Research Topic

Professional Development as intervention to Improve communication confidence within Middle School Teachers.





Research Problem Statement

Middle School Teachers lack confidence in effective communication skills used in the classroom with their students resulting in direct impact to:

- Student learning
- Connection to the educational content,
- Classroom conflict resolution,
- Student trust in their educator.





Research Question

What is the effect of implementing a professional development course, with a group of middle school teachers about how to communicate with their students, on the teachers confidence in their ability to communicate with their students as measured by a pre and post-survey?





Instructional Unit Overview

Target



Provided professional development targeting communication confidence to a group of 5 middle school teachers.

Location




Research was performed in a classroom setting at the researcher workplace.

Time limits




5 Units were completed over 5 days, 1 hour allotted for each unit.





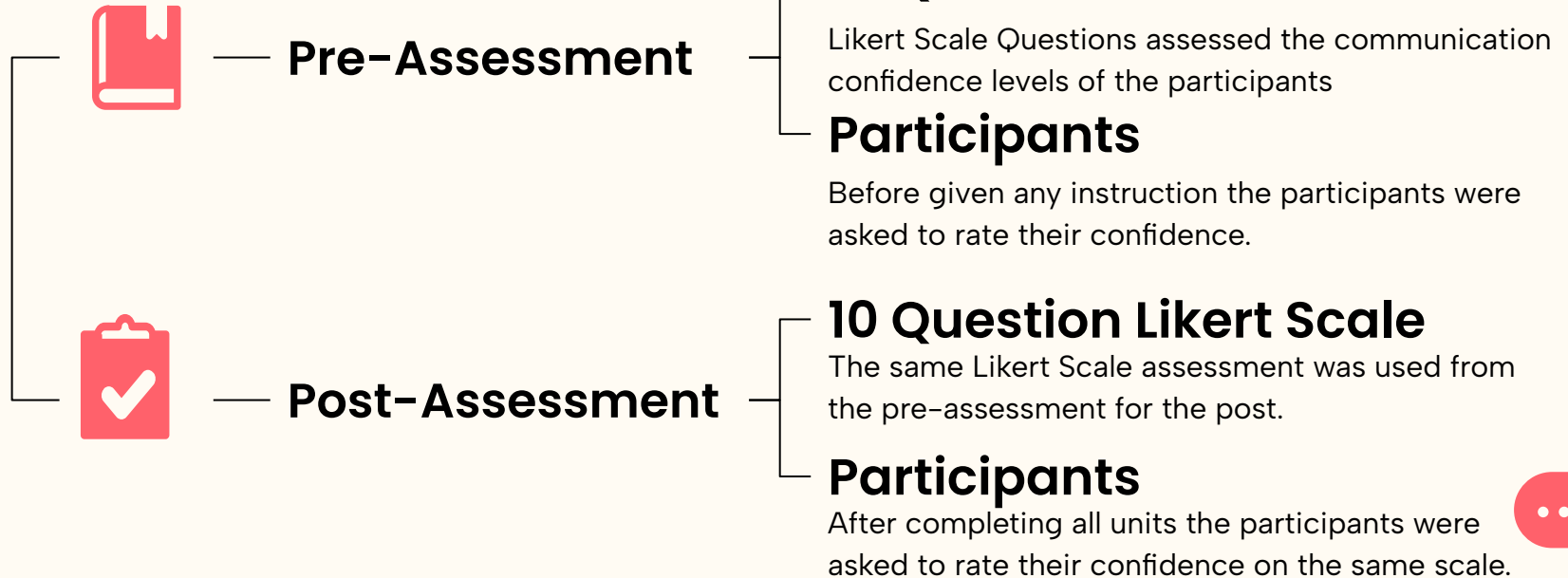
Instructional Unit (5 Lessons)

1.	Oral Communication	Lesson included lecture, individual practice, group practice, activities, games and reflection.
2.	Written Communication	Lesson included lecture, individual practice, group practice, writing activities, games and reflection.
3.	Digital & Visual Communication	Lesson included lecture, individual practice, group practice, creative development, and reflection.
4.	Active Listening	Lesson included lecture, group practice, individual practice, worksheets and reflection.
5.	Non-Verbal Listening Cues	Lesson included lecture, individual practice, group practice, activities, games and reflection.





Quantitative Research Study Data Collection & Analysis






Data Collection & Analysis Methods




Collection

- Participants were assigned a number for anonymity
 - Participants used their number to complete their pre and post surveys.
 - Likert Scale Survey Questions Rated on 1-5, as 5 high.
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Analysis

- Descriptive statistics,
 - Focused on the average score of each participant
 - Comparison between the pre and post assessments.
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Data Collection Graphs & Data

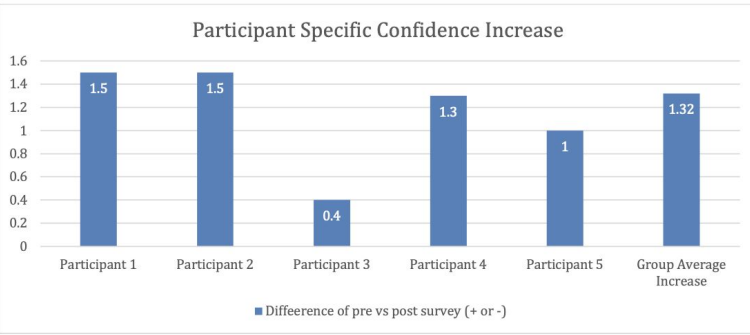
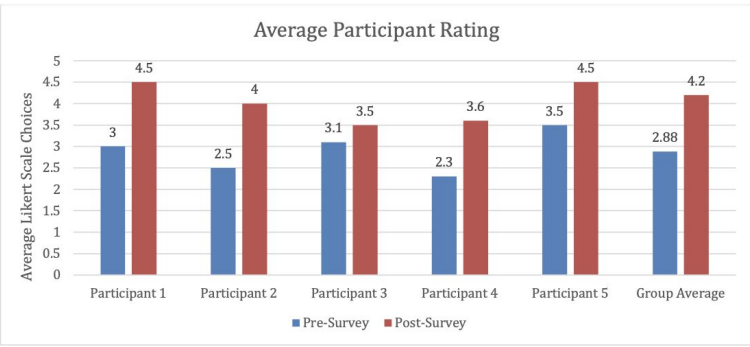
Simulated Data – Kaylee P.
Scores for 5 participants on the Pre-and Post-survey

5-point Likert scale – Pre-and Post-Self-Survey

Participant #	Total average per participant for all 10 items; PRE-survey	Participant #	Total average per participant for all 10 items; POST-survey	Difference for each participant from pre to post (+ or -)
1	3.0	1	4.5	+1.5
2	2.5	2	4.0	+1.5
3	3.1	3	3.5	+.4
4	2.3	4	3.6	+1.3
5	3.5	5	4.5	+1.0
Total/Sum		Total/Sum		

Scale:

- Very Poor/Strongly Disagree -1
- Poor/Disagree – 2
- Fair/Neutral – 3
- Good/Agree – 4
- Very Good/Strongly Agree- 5





1.14

Average Participant Confidence Rating Growth

2.88

Pre-Survey Group Confidence Rating Average

4.2



Post-Survey Group Confidence Rating Average





Strengths & Weaknesses

Strengths

- Actionable Insights
- Clear Measuring with the use of the same survey for Pre and Post Assessment.

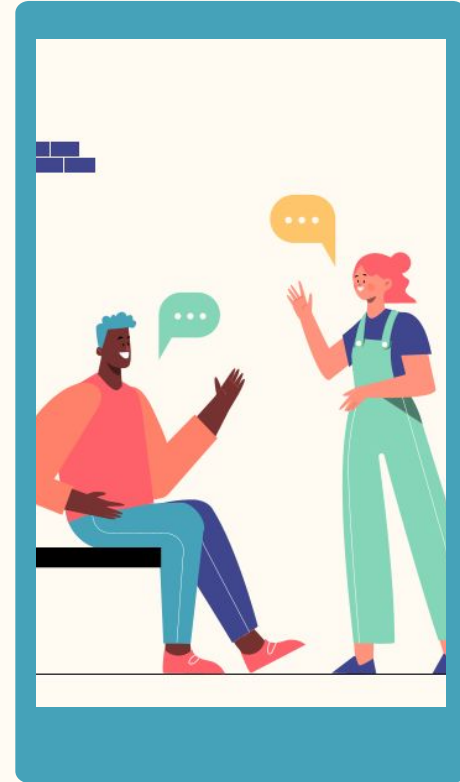
Weaknesses

- A limited scope as the study only had 5 participants.
- The reliance on self-reported data from the participants.



Applying The Knowledge

- Continuously request and participant in targeted Professional Development Courses to improve my own communication confidence.
- Encourage educators and peers to take part in Professional Development to target any of their weaknesses.
- Survey my students on their experience in my classroom to navigate any areas where I can improve in my role as their educator.





Thank You

