



The initial survey of basic scientific literacy in Guangxi middle school

Xiao Qin LAI

The Guangxi Institute of Education
Guangxi 530023, CHINA

Email: gxlxqin@163.com

Received 29 Oct., 2007

Revised 27 Dec., 2007

Abstract

More than 3000 middle school students in Guangxi were surveyed by the Test of Basic Scientific Literacy (TBSL) to examine the status quo of their scientific literacy. The results showed that (1) the modified Test of Basic Scientific Literacy (TBSL) on the basis of Taiwan version was established satisfactory validity and reliability as well as division. It can mainly be used for the measurement of middle school students' scientific literacy in mainland China. (2) In general, the Guangxi middle school students performed better in health science, life science, earth science and space science, but scored lower in nature of science and physical science. (3) There was significant difference between grades, higher grade students scored significantly higher than the lower grade students. (4) The boys outperformed girls in earth science and space science while girls outperformed boys in health science, life science, STS and TBSL. (5) Science major's students achieved better than art majors in earth science and space science as well as in nature of science. Finally, some implications were given to the scientific literacy instructions.

Keywords: Guangxi; middle school student; basic scientific literacy; science content; nature of science; STS