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Preschool teacher professional development: internet-based video demonstrations

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Abstract:

The purpose of this study was to examine the advantages of using a website (Ideas4preschool.com) to supplement typical forms of preschool teacher professional development. The hypothesis was that an online learning community could not only improve teaching through sharing video demonstrations of quality teacher-child interactions, but also become a source of much needed peer support for early childhood educators who feel isolated and lack planning time. Twelve Head Start and California State Preschool staff viewed the Ideas4preschool.com website, and reported it would give them a "voice" and sense of "Teamwork." However, quality control and ongoing website maintenance were issues of concern. The funding sources and professional monitoring necessary for making the internet a convenient approach to quality professional development are discussed.

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Includes bibliographical references (pages 64-77)

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