

Abacus Education Toward 21st Century

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1. Achievement in Abacus Education Improved

DADDS (Department of American Defence Dependent School in Japan.)

There are about 270 overseas American Schools in the world. There are altogether 17 schools and 10,000 students in American schools in Japan. I taught in these schools for 12 years, 5 days per year, then students' arithmetic scores are getting higher and higher, finally their scores became highest among the 270 overseas schools and that was more than average scores of the U.S.A. Superintendent, Mr. Richard F. Osner said that these facts contributed to abacus.

2. About skilled Abacus users and the Training of Intelligence

Mr. Lin and Mr. Haqits, professors at Osaka Education University conducted research on the relationship between abacus education and advanced brain. Their thesis issued on the Journal of British Medical Science. Dr. Sinagwakane, Mr. Kawano Kibeko and Mr. Osisewbi, professors at Japan Medical University, did similar research and made a report to the 68th Conference of Japan Physiology Association in Kyoto.

3. A Dissertation Submitted for the Ph. D. Degree in Abacus Study

Dr. James Sigler, Associate professor at University of Chicago, wrote his Doctoral Dissertation about abacus study. He did over two years' research in Taiwan and also did an experiment before giving abacus lessons. He initially researched behavior psychology, however, after long period deep research he wrote doctoral dissertation about Zhusuan and received Ph. D. Also he wrote many other thesis including *Mental Abacus – The Effect of Abacus Training on Chinese Children's Mental Calculation*.

3. Japanese – American Cooperative Study on the Effects of Abacus Education

Dr. Flanagan at the University of Maryland and Dr. Biga, professor at the University of the Ryukyus (in Okinawa) cooperated to study the mathematic scores of Japanese and American students and found that Japanese students were better at mathematics than American students. Especially it was worthy mentioning that abacus learners are the top students in class.

4. Experimental guide on the Effects of Abacus Education

American educators wanted to know why American children became increasingly reluctant to study arithmetic. Abacus was introduced to the class by them and was popular among the students, for numbers on the abacus are shown concretely, not instead abstractly. The students were gradually fond of studying arithmetic.

5. Concentration Effect

Denker Avenue School in California did a research on the students' concentration after introducing abacus. The result proved to be good and to learn abacus is helpful for enhancing the students' attention.

7. The Objective Teaching Tool

Children like to do something concretely instead sitting frigidly and listening to lectures passively. Abacus learning helps to cultivate their active attitudes toward study, which is also in conformity with Haslett's and Piaget's theories.

Courtesy:

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