

Student Perceptions on Virtual Laboratories



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Virtual Laboratories: *It is established that laboratories are an essential part of training and providing hands-on experience in many courses. However, many live laboratories have evolved into lessons in following directions. A recent report from the Department of Education indicated that the inclusion of online simulations as well as manipulations trigger learner activity and enhance learning.*

Survey parameters:

- Thirty students enrolled in Fall 2010 Introductory Nursery Management class were asked their opinions about the use of virtual laboratory assignments as well as a virtual field trip
- 47% responses rate
- Responses were ranked using PROC RANK and rankings analyzed in ANOVA

Summary: *This survey suggests that students appeared open to virtual laboratories where they could apply what they learned in lecture and solve problems.*

