

Promoting Cultural Diversity among First Year University Students during an Educational Excursion

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ABSTRACT This article focuses on promoting cultural diversity among first year university students from different backgrounds, using an indigenous game called *upuca*. Learning Outcome 3 of Life Orientation was used as a vehicle to promote cultural diversity. The aim of this study was to describe and promote cultural diversity among first year university students during an educational excursion in 2007. The research adopted a qualitative generic ethnographic design, where students were observed by the researcher during their game play interaction with an aim of seeing how they promote and embrace cultural diversity. Data were collected through using an observation approach and eighty first year students participated in this study. The findings of this study indicated that the indigenous game played was of value to the students because they became aware of the importance of friendship, respect, self-awareness, improved social interaction, improved relationships and reduced cultural and language barriers.