

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First and foremost I bow in reverence before the Supreme God, the Almighty for His wonderful blessings bestowed on me abundantly during this research endeavour. At each and every moment of my life's journey I have experienced enormously His loving presence. I am grateful to you God the Almighty.

It is indeed an honour for me to express my sincere gratitude from the bottom of my heart to my guide Prof. D.R.Goel, Professor Emeritus, CASE, Faculty of Education and Psychology, The M.S.University of Baroda, Vadodara, whose continuous guidance, support, patience and encouragement motivated me from the very conception of the idea of the research in the field and this enabled me to develop an understanding of the subject and to complete the thesis successfully. Dear Sir, you have nurtured me with research discipline all along my journey with you. Your insightful comments, constructivist ideas and constructivist criticisms at different stages of my research were really thought provoking and helped me to focus my ideas. I also have learnt the essential values of life by observing you; it was indeed a great privilege and honour for me to study under your guidance. Therefore, I owe a great deal to you, dear Sir, for being such a wonderful guide with integral humanism. Thank you so much Sir.

My sincere thanks to Prof. S. Kumar, Former Dean, Faculty of Education and Psychology, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara for his scholarly advice and constant encouragement too.

I am grateful to Prof. R.G. Kothari, Dean, Faculty of Education and Psychology, The M.S.University of Baroda, Vadodara, for his administrative support and encouragement towards the completion of this research work.

I express my deepest gratitude to Prof. S.C. Panigrahi, Head, CASE, Faculty of Education and Psychology, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara, for his generous academic and administrative support in numerous ways to conduct and complete this research successfully.

I am pleased to express my sincere thanks to Dr. Chhaya Goel, Associate Professor, CASE, Faculty of Education and Psychology, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara, for her wonderful support and encouragement which contributed a great deal towards successful completion of this research.

I am extremely thankful to Dr. V.M. Patel, Rosary High School, Baroda, Dr. Hiren Trivedi, Rosary High School, Baroda, Dr. Srinivasan Tulasī, Baroda High School, Mrs. Satyabama, Convent of Jesus and Mary High School, Dr. Anjali Khirwadkar, and all the experts, who have spend their valuable time for improving the tool for this research work.

I am grateful to Mrs. Mary D'souza, the former principal of Convent of Jesus and Mary High school, and Fr. Paulraj Yagu. S.J., the principal of Rosary High School, Pratapgunj, Baroda, for permitting me to implement the Computer based Multimedia Software Package, the intervention programme and helping me to collect data from the students of XII B, for this research work.

My thanks to Staff and the Students of Covent of Jesus and Mary High School, Baroda, the Staff and the Students of Rosary High School, Baroda, and the Biology Teachers of Baroda in assisting me enormously to implement the Multimedia Software Instructional Programme and for data collection. I am very grateful to Mr. Manish Thakkar for his support and guidance to develop this Multimedia Software Instructional programme.

I would like to thank Mr. Jitendrakumar Shrimali, the Librarian, CASE, for his kind and timely help. Thanks to Hansa Mehta Library, The M.S. University of Baroda, Vadodara, for providing very rich related literature to support this research work.

The rich presentations and in-depth academic discussion of the CASE, The Tuesday Seminars and Saturday Research Forums groomed the researcher in me in a progressive manner. I also recall the help of the non-teaching staff of CASE and Faculty Office with deep sense of gratitude.

I also express my gratefulness to all my fellow researchers for their wonderful support, suggestions and accompaniment in my journey.

I am thankful to my well wishers Fr. Girish Santiago.SJ, Fr. Jolly Nadukuddil.SJ, Fr. Ambrose Vedam. SJ, Fr. P.D. Mathew. SJ, the Fathers of Rosary Community, and my colleagues in the school Ms. Ajita Thakore, Mr. Purvadh Shah, Mrs. Sunita Sikand for their constant encouragement and moral support.

I remember with strong emotion, for the love, affection and support bestowed unconditionally on me by my benefactors and God-Mother Ana Belda, Carmen Azpitarte, my Parents, Brothers and Sisters.

Last but not the least, I thank The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara, for the opportunity given to me to study and complete my research work successfully.

Thank you one and all once again.

*13th April, 2015
Vadodara*

Rayappan Irudayam, SJ.