

THE VIEWS OF SCIENCE TEACHER CANDIDATES REGARDING THE COLLECTION, RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL OF WASTE BATTERIES

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ABSTRACT

The aim of this study was to investigate the views of science teacher candidates regarding the collection, recycling and disposal of waste batteries. The study was conducted with a total of 92 fourth-year science teacher candidates attending the education faculty of a public university in Turkey. Study data were collected using five open-ended questions regarding the collection, recycling and disposal of waste batteries, and analyzed using the descriptive analysis method. It was determined that 57 of the teacher candidates participating to the study did not have any views or knowledge regarding the institutions and organizations in Turkey responsible for the collection, recycling and disposal of waste batteries. In addition, 79 of the teacher candidates described that current activities in Turkey for the collection of batteries are inadequate, while 85 of the teacher candidates noted that public service announcements through the visual and printed media, as well as posters and informative programs, regarding batteries might help increase people's level of awareness on this subject. Another noteworthy result of this study was that all of the participating teacher candidates expressed the importance of raising environmentally-conscious individuals by including the subject of waste battery management into educational programs/curricula at all levels of education.

Keywords: Science teacher candidate, waste batteries, recycle.