

## Abstract

The aim of this research is to study and to analyze the character of Knowledge Park and the libraries in primary schools, as well as the relationship between the character of the two areas. The study will lead the design and management guideline for Knowledge Park in primary schools. The author collected data from users of Knowledge Park and three primary schools from the Education Region One, which are the Pathumthani Kindergarten, the Nonthaburi Kindergarten and the Wat Pichai Songkram Kindergarten. The observation of behavioral patterns was conducted on forty children aged between 5 - 12 years as well as eighty guardians who used Knowledge Park, ten Knowledge Park officials and three hundred and ninety-three students in primary schools. One Knowledge Park Designer and six teachers in respective primary schools were interviewed and asked to complete questionnaires.

The research result found that children 5 - 12 years of age occupied Knowledge Park in the sections of Honey Comb Ladder, Book Wall, Kid's Room and E-Library to read, to listen to tell-a-tale, to join their activities such as toy-making and to play games. These actual patterns concurred with the collected views from the guardians and the Knowledge Park officials, which regarded the three areas and the Quiet Room and the Open Square as suitable areas to develop learning skills of 5 - 12 year old children. The respondents also agreed that a library of a primary school is efficient to be the hub of learning activities such as reading, tell-a-tale and playing.

The Design and Management Guidelines for Knowledge Park in primary school by recreating some parts of Knowledge Park area in a library of a primary school can be done by improving and re-arranging the interior of the school library to provide general reading area, Kid's Book Area and Audio-Visual room in proportion of 70%, 20% and 10% of the floor area respectively. Also the area of Honey Comb Ladder and Book Wall, Kid's Room, E-Library, Quiet Room and Open Square should be provided in the proportion of 5%, 10%, 10%, 50% and 25% of the floor area respectively and to add other activities such as tell-a-tale, toy-making and play games in school library. New

equipment for the new areas should be installed to complete the new form of library similar to the Knowledge Park. However, the feasibility of this new form of primary school library would also depend on other managerial and administrative factors of an individual school, which are budget, the number of library services officials, the location of library and the library size.