Conference Name: 2025 EdTec - International Conference on Education & Learning Technology,

17-18 November, London

Conference Dates: 17-Nov- 2025 to 18-Nov- 2025

Conference Venue: The Tomlinson Centre, Queensbridge Road, London, UK

Appears in: PUPIL: International Journal of Teaching, Education and Learning (ISSN 2457-0648)

Publication year: 2025

Hsiao-Yuan Chu, 2025

Volume 2025, pp. 565-566

DOI- https://doi.org/10.20319/ictel.2025.565566

This paper can be cited as: Chu, H.-Y. (2025). An Action Research on Developing First-Grade

Students' Emotional Literacy through Picture Books. 2025 EdTec – International Conference

on Education & Learning Technology, 17-18 November, London. Proceedings of Teaching &

Education Research Association (TERA), 2025, 565-566

AN ACTION RESEARCH ON DEVELOPING FIRST-

GRADE STUDENTS' EMOTIONAL LITERACY

THROUGH PICTURE BOOKS

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Abstract

This study examined the impact of integrating picture books into emotional education

on the emotional competence of first-grade students. Using an action research

approach, three students from an elementary school in Miaoli County participated in

three picture book lessons—The Angry Soup, The Happiest Gift, and My New Grandma.

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The study examined changes across four dimensions: emotional awareness, expression, understanding, and regulation, based on observation records, worksheets, and reflective notes. Results showed that all students could accurately recognize and express emotions. Hsiao-Yu and Ai-Hsin demonstrated understanding of emotional causes and empathy, while Dan-Tsai required teacher guidance and long-term support. Hsiao-Yu showed self-regulation, and Ai-Hsin managed negative emotions by shifting attention. Overall, picture book-based instruction effectively enhanced students' emotional awareness and expression, though emotional regulation and empathy require ongoing development.

Keywords:

Emotional Literacy Skills, Emotional Competence, Picture Book