

**SP - (16362) - ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS OF PRIMARY EDUCATION STUDENTS REGARDING THE SUSTAINABLE USE AND MANAGEMENT OF WATER**

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**Short Abstract**

*For years, the scientific community and other experts have been warning about the necessity to transform and change the processes that are destroying our biodiversity and natural systems. Caring for water and ecosystems play a fundamental role for the health, sustainable development and well-being of our society. From this perspective culture and education about water are key to increasing environmental awareness on socio-environmental problems and risks associated with the sustainable use and management of water resources. This work shows the level of environmental awareness that Primary Education students have on the management and uses of water. The study is presented from a mixed research approach (QUAL → quan). For this research, firstly, a qualitative analysis of the 95 letters of the third-year Primary Education students at an educational center in Malaga was carried out. Afterwards, the study was completed with a quantitative secondary analysis of frequencies and percentages, which showed in a complementary way the greater presence or absence of some of the categories. The results of this work show low levels of awareness of students regarding water, linking the management and use of water with a vision that is more anthropocentric than ecocentric. In addition, students usually conceive the uses of water from a direct and close perspective, based on food, health and hygiene. The conclusions of this study raise the need to improve the curricula and address water content from a broader and less theoretical perspective, based on pro-environmental attitudes, behaviors and values.*