

HOUSEWIVES INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN A HOME LEARNING EXPERIMENT

An educational experiment designed to test the value of a SELF-LEARNING KIT requires the voluntary assistance of 12 housewives. The project will last approximately 3-4 weeks or 20-30 hours and will be done by each housewife in her own home using tapes, slides, instruments and written materials, all of which will be provided at no expense to the participant.

This is an educational experiment, not a commercial venture. It is a project designed to test the feasibility of offering college level courses in the home rather than at a campus.

Housewives wishing to participate in this study must meet the following requirements:

RESIDENCE: Live in North or West Vancouver

AGE:
20 years or over

EDUCATION:
Completion of Grade 8

TRAINING:
NO formal training in College level physics, electricity or electronics.
No work experience in physics or electronics.

If you meet the above requirements and wish further information about your possible participation in this learning experiment at no cost to you please phone Harold Kirchner, Director, Self Learning Project any night after 7:00 p.m. at 987-3727.

Please reply on or before June 11th, 1971

Educator Needs Help From Local Housewives

A North Shore educator is seeking the help of a dozen housewives to prove that a self-learning kit that he has devised can teach college-level courses at home.

Harold Kirchner says he hopes to show that housewives with no previous knowledge of physics or electronics can learn complete electrical measuring skills with the aid of a kit that he has devised.

This kit, about the size of a small suitcase, contains a tape recorder, projector, measuring device and textbook.

By following the textbook, the tape-recorded instructions, and using the visual aids, the housewife can soon start taking measurements in complex electrical circuits and construct simple electrical circuits.

"I believe that changes in teaching and learning methods must be developed to reduce the high cost of education and permit more productive and inexpensive ways of learn-

ing," said Kirchner, who is assistant Dean of Career Programs at Capilano College.

"It is with these thoughts in mind that I have developed a self-learning program which can be used by the student at home, independent of teaching assistance.

Kirchner says that while self-learning is not a new concept, the majority of courses involve only a series of written lessons and a textbook.

"The system that I have devised involves laboratory work formerly only available at the college or the university. While in this instance it is specifically devised for a physics program, there is no reason why it would not be adapted to teach any subject whatsoever. I would imagine that it would be particularly valuable in the study of languages."

Kirchner said he is seeking housewives for a number of reasons.

"In most cases, housewives have had no formal training or practical experience in electricity or related fields. This means that previous experience and knowledge will not unduly effect the results of the study.

"Most housewives have normally been away from a formal learning environment for a number of years and, since they are at home for a good part of the day, a self-learning kit appears to be the most feasible way of assisting in continuous learning."

He said that while the subject of electricity might be a topic quite foreign to the average housewife, it is not difficult to master. "The course centres around basic principles which I believe those who participate will find interesting and useful."

Kirchner came up with his home-learning kit as a result of his work on his Master of Education thesis at Simon Fraser University. The project has been developed in consultation with SFU professors Dr. John Ellis, Dr. Milton McLaren and Dr. Ian Allen.

Co-author of a textbook, "Electricity and Electronics," used by grade 9 and 10 students in B.C. and other provinces, Kirchner has taught in the public school system at the University of B.C. before joining the staff of Capilano College.