

## METAPHORIC PERCEPTION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TEACHERS AND TEACHER CANDIDATES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

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### Abstract

This study was conducted to reveal the perception of science and technology teachers and teacher candidates about “environmental education” concept using metaphors. Sample of the study consists of 47 science and technology teachers who volunteered to participate in research and 40 teacher candidates who were studying in Erciyes University, at the Department of Science Education during 2012-2013 academic years. Teachers and teacher candidates were asked to fill the blanks in a form such as “Environmental education is like ....., because of .....” They were asked to fill the first blank with a metaphor about the concept of environmental education and explain the reason of this metaphor in the second blank. Nine participants’ answers were missing or their forms were incorrectly filled, thus they were excluded from the evaluation. Regarding the participants, teachers produced 34 different metaphors about environmental education concept whereas teacher candidates produced 31 different metaphors. According to these metaphors, “environmental education” perceptions of the teachers and teacher candidates were grouped under different categories. Then the results of the categories were interpreted.

**Key Words:** Metaphor, environmental education, science and technology, perception.