DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 268 291   CE 044 120

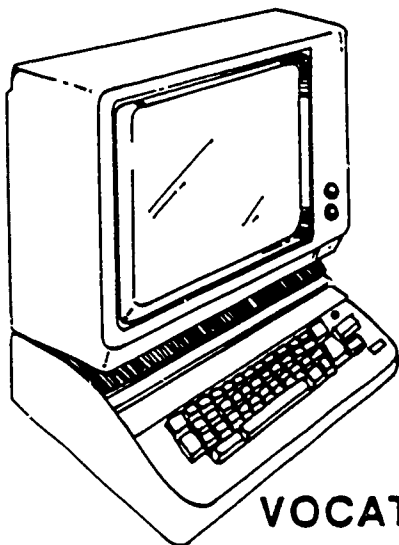AUTHOR   Rosenfeld, Vila M.; And Others
TITLE   Grab a Byte. Courseware Evaluation for Vocational and
                Technical Education.
INSTITUTION   Ohio State Univ., Columbus. National Center for
                Research in Vocational Education.
SPONS AGENCY   Office of Vocational and Adult Education (ED),
                Washington, DC.
PUB DATE   27 Mar 86
NOTE   10p.; For a related document, see ED 244 058.
PUB TYPE   Reports - Evaluative/Feasibility (142)

EDRS PRICE   MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS   *Courseware; Educational Games; *Food; *Home
                Economics; Instructional Material Evaluation;
                *Nutrition; Secondary Education
IDENTIFIERS   *Courseware Evaluation; *Nutrients

ABSTRACT
        This courseware evaluation rates the "Grab a Byte"
program developed by the National Dairy Council. (The program--not
included in this document--is divided into three sections:
Grab-a-Grape uses a quiz-show format to examine students' knowledge
of food groups; Nutrition Sleuth reinforces students' nutrient
knowledge; and Have-a-Byte analyzes meals in terms of students'
nutrient needs.) Part A describes "Grab a Byte" in terms of subjects
(food and nutrition) and hardware requirements (Apple II and
peripherals), indicates its suitability for 7th-10th grade individual
or small group instruction, and lists accompanying materials
(instructor and user guides, food list) and time estimate (25-40
minutes). Availability information includes cost ($30.00) and contact
address. Part B contains the evaluation criteria in eight categories;
reviewer ratings appear as yes, somewhat, no, and not applicable,
with explanatory comments. Part C summarizes the evaluation. The
strengths of this program are its interesting, easy-to-follow game
format and topic. A weakness is that answers are provided too readily
in the Nutrition Sleuth section. Summary ratings in the eight
categories include the following: subject matter, technical
presentation, student interaction, and program interaction--yes;
documentation--somewhat; and student evaluation, work behaviors and
application programs--not applicable. The final rating highly
recommends this courseware as a fun way to learn sound nutrition
information. (SK)

ERIC
Full Text Provided by ERIC
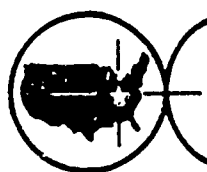
GRAB A BYTE

COURSEWARE EVALUATION

FOR

VOCATIONAL AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

The evaluation of this courseware program was conducted by a team participating in the Courseware Evaluation Network. The Network, established in 1985, is coordinated by the National Center for Research in Vocational Education under the sponsorship of the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education. The purpose of the Network is to identify and evaluate microcomputer courseware, and to disseminate courseware reviews for vocational and technical education.

Each Network team includes three members, at least one of which is, or recently has been, a vocational or technical teacher in the subject matter area of the courseware being evaluated. The evaluation represents a synthesis of the opinions of the team members. It is suggested that the evaluation be used as a first screening device for courseware and that the teacher also evaluate the courseware program on the basis of specific student needs.

The Courseware Evaluation: Form and Guide used for all of the Network evaluations was developed by the National Center and is available through its cost-recovery system.
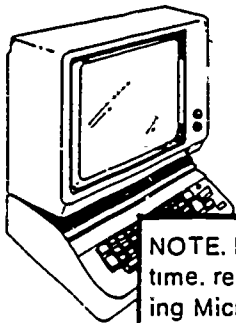
THE NATIONAL CENTER
FOR RESEARCH IN VOCATIONAL EDUCATION
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
1960 KENNY ROAD · COLUMBUS, OHIO 43210

COURSEWARE EVALUATION FORM

Vila M. Rosenfeld, Leila G. Halsey

NOTE. If you are using this form for the first time. read the instructions in the accompanying Microcomputer Courseware Evaluation Guide

Evaluator __Renny M. Cannon__

Position __Coordinator, Associate Professor, Lecturer__

Date __March 27, 1986__

Part A: Courseware Description

In the following sections. record descriptive information about the courseware that you are evaluating.

I. IDENTIFICATION

Program Title __Grab A Byte__ Date __1983__

Series Title _____

Vocational Area(s) __Home Economics, Health__

Subject Area(s) __Food and Nutrition__

Topic(s) __Nutrition__

Developing Agency __National Dairy Council__

Street or P.O. Box __6300 North River Road__

City __Rosemont,__ State __IL__ Zip __60018__ Phone(312) __696-1020__

Author(s) _____

Programmer(s) _____

II. HARDWARE REQUIREMENTS

Microcomputer* __Apple II, IIe , IIc__
(brand/model)

K Memory Required __48K__
(number)

Medium of Transfer (include number of each):

___ Tape cassette __1__ 5¼" Flexible disk ___ Other_____
___ ROM cartridge ___ 8" Flexible disk
(specify)

Programming Language _____ DOS Specifications __3.3__

Other Specifications __Color monitor and printer optional. Specify II, IIe, or IIc.__

Peripherals Needed (check all that apply):

___ Color monitor ___ Modem ___ Clock
_X_ One disk drive ___ Mouse ___ Video disk
___ Two disk drives ___ Printer ___ Touch screen
___ Plotter ___ Graphics tablet ___ Ten-key number
___ Game paddle(s) ___ Light pen pad
___ Joystick(s) ___ Voice/sound ___ Other_____
instrument (specify)

*NOTE: Provide the above information for any additional hardware on which this program can be used._____

3

III. PROGRAM FEATURES (check all that apply):

___ Network version provided
___ Multiple copies required
___ Program can be modified

___ Program protected
___ Data disk needed
___ Field-test data available

IV. INSTRUCTIONAL SETTING

Program mode (check all that apply):

___ Application
___ Drill and practice

X_ Educational gaming
___ Simulation

___ Tutorial
___ Other _____ (specify)

Student Target Population (check all that apply):

_X_ Regular
___ Disadvantaged

___ Handicapped
___ Limited English

___ Bilingual
___ Gifted

Grade Level (check all that apply):

___ K-6
_X_ 7-8

X_ 9-10
___ 11-12

___ 13-14
___ Adult

___ Higher Education

Instructional Grouping (check all that apply):

_X_ Individual
_X_ Small group (up to 4)
___ Large group (4 or more)

___ competitive interaction
___ cooperative interaction

Prerequisite Student Skills (specify) _____

Accompanying Materials (specify types):
Documentation ___ Instructor's Guide; User's Guide _____

Student support materials ___ Food List _____

Teacher support materials _____

Correlated materials _____

Estimated Time for Use ___ 25 to 40 minutes _____

V. AVAILABILITY

___ Free_____ (copies)

X_ Sale $ 30.00

___ Rent $_____ _____ (time)

___ Loan_____ (time)

___ Duplication (requestor supplies disk)

Copyright Restrictions (explain) ___ 1983 National Dairy Council. All rights reserved.

Back-up Policy (explain) _____

Preview Policy (explain) _____

Update Policy (explain) _____

Contact ___ National Dairy Council _____

Street or P.O. Box ___ 6300 North River Road _____

City ___ Rosemont, ___ State ___ IL ___ Zip 60018 ___ Phone (312) 696-1020

4

Part B: Courseware Evaluation Criteria

Indicate the applicability of each section to the courseware being evaluated by checking either "___ A" (applicable) or "___ N/A" (not applicable). If a section is not applicable. proceed to the next section. If a section is applicable. check the column that indicates how well the courseware meets each criterion. Include any comments.

	YES	SOME-WHAT	NO	N/A	COMMENTS
I. SUBJECT MATTER _X_ A ___ N/A					
1. Subject matter has educational value.	x				
2. Student objectives are stated.			x		
3. Subject matter is accurate.	x				
4. Subject matter is logically presented.	x				
5. Subject matter is free of race. ethnic. sex, and other stereotypes.	x				
6. Subject matter is on the level of the students.	x				
7. Information and skills presented are comparable to those used in the home. business. or industry.		x			
8. Subject matter motivates students to learn.	x				
9. Subject matter is reviewed and summarized.	x				
10. Program utilizes the unique capabilities of the microcomputer to present the subject matter.	x				
II. TECHNICAL PRESENTATION _X_ A ___ N/A					
1. Program is free of technical problems.	x				
2. Presentation rate is adequate to maintain interest.	x				
3. Information on the screen is easy to read.	x				
4. Program is free of spelling and grammatical errors.	x				
5. Program instructions are easy to follow.	x				
6. Color increases the instructional value of the program.					Color monitor not available for reviewers.
7. Audio increases the instructional value of the program.	x				Optional
8. Graphics increase the instructional value of the program.	x				

5

	YES	SOME-WHAT	NO	N/A	COMMENTS
III. STUDENT INTERACTION _x_ A ___ N/A					
1. Students can use the program with minimal assistance.	x				
2. Students are actively involved in the program.	x				
3. Students control the pace of the program.	x				
4. Students can access the program "menu(s)" to change activities.	x				
5. Students are permitted to change answers.			x		
6. Methods of responding correspond to the level of the program.	x				
7. Students' errors of entry are processed so that the program continues to run.	x				
8. Students can access available "help" and "hint" options at any time.			x		
9. Students can enter or exit the program as desired.			x		
10. Students control the sequence of the program.	x				
IV. PROGRAM INTERACTION ___x_A ___ N/A					
1. Feedback is immediate.	x				
2. Cues and prompts are provided to assist students in answering correctly.	x				
3. Feedback reinforces the correct responses.	x				
4. Feedback is nonthreatening.	x				
5. Program helps students understand wrong answers.	x				
6. Program gives the correct answer after a reasonable number of tries.	x				
7. Positive reinforcement is varied.			x		
8. Program has the ability to branch/loop depending upon students' performance.				x	
9. Feedback is on the level of the student.	x				
V. STUDENT EVALUATION ___ A _x_ N/A					
1. Evaluation provides a means for measuring attainment of objectives.					
2. Program reports which items were missed and which were correct.					

6

	YES	SOME-WHAT	NO	N/A	COMMENTS
V. STUDENT EVALUATION—*Continued*					
3. Individual student performance results are available to the teacher.					
4. Class performance results are available to the teacher					
5. Program provides for printed copies of evaluations.					
6. Test item formats are suited to the material being tested.					
7. Test items are clearly stated.					
8. Test item bank is provided.					
VI. DOCUMENTATION _X_ A ___ N/A					
1. Documentation is easy to understand.	x				
2. Documentation is accurate.	x				
3. Student objectives are stated.			x		
4. Underlying concepts are outlined.		x			
5. Skills to be developed are specified.		x			
6. Procedures for integrating the program into the curriculum are provided.		x			
7. Follow-up activities are suggested.	x				
8. Documentation explains the intended use of support materials.		x			
9. Sufficient information is provided to operate the program.	x				
VII. WORK BEHAVIORS ___ A _X_ N/A					
1. Program helps students identify their vocational skills.					
2. Program promotes pride in work.					
3. Program promotes productivity.					
4. Program encourages good work habits.					
5. Problem solving is encouraged.					
6. Program promotes good human relations skills.					
7. Program provides an opportunity for work satisfaction and self-fulfillment.					
8. Program encourages creativity.					

Part B: Courseware Evaluation Criteria

7

Part B: Courseware Evaluation Criteria

	YES	SOME-WHAT	NO	N/A	COMMENTS
VIII. APPLICATION PROGRAMS __ A _X_ N/A (to be completed for application programs only)					
1. Program is adaptable to the needs of the student.					
2. Commands are easily remembered.					
3. Information is easily manipulated.					
4. Corrections are easy to make.					
5. Program includes all necessary variables.					
6. Program performs reliably.					
7. Program efficiently achieves its intended purpose.					
8. Trial data are supplied for learning to run the program.					
9. Program provides for use of printer when hard copy of information is advantageous.					
10. Program moves from operation to operation efficiently.					
11. Program is compatible with other application programs.					
12. Program has a supplementary tutorial program available.					

1. SUMMARY COMMENTS

Identify strengths of the courseware: Interesting, easy to follow game format.   Games vary in complexity.   Topic is good.

Identify weaknesses of the courseware: In Nutrition Sleuth, the answers are provided too readily.

Describe uses of the courseware in an instructional setting:

2. SUMMARY OF SECTION

Rate the quality of the courseware for each applicable section of this form by checking the appropriate column; if not applicable, check N/A.

	YES	SOME-WHAT	NO	N/A
I. SUBJECT MATTER: Content has educational value.	x			
II. TECHNICAL PRESENTATION: Program is free of malfunctions.	x			
III. STUDENT INTERACTION: Students are actively involved with the program.	x			
IV. PROGRAM INTERACTION: Feedback is effectively employed.	x			
V. STUDENT EVALUATION: Evaluation adequately measures student progress.				x
VI. DOCUMENTATION: Documentation is sufficient to run the program.		x		
VII. WORK BEHAVIORS: Program assists students in developing positive work attitudes and skills.				x
VIII. APPLICATION PROGRAMS: Program performs the task for which it is intended.				x

3. FINAL RECOMMENDATION

Check your recommendation for the courseware and explain your reasons below.

_X_ Highly recommend   ___ Recommend with reservations
___ Recommend   ___ Do not recommend

The program provides a fun way to learn sound nutrition information. It appeals to adults and youth.

	ORDER	
TO ORDER ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THIS PUBLICATION USE—	NUMBER	PRICE
• Microcomputer Courseware Evaluation: Form and Guide for Vocational and Technical Education	SN 44	$2.50

TO ORDER RELATED PUBLICATIONS, REFER TO—

• Microcomputers in Voc Ed: A Decision Guide	RD 239 A	$8.75
• An Administrator's Guide to Microcomputer Resources	RD 239 B	$9.50
• Microcomputer Software for Adult Vocational Education: Guidelines for Evaluation	IN 261	$3.25
• Microcomputers in Small Business Management	LT 64	$6.50
• Word Processing: A Guide to Program Planning	LT 65	$4.95

ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS

To order additional copies, please use order number and title. Orders of $10.00 or less should be prepaid. Make remittance payable to the National Center for Research in Vocational Education Mail order to:

    The National Center for Research
     in Vocational Education
    National Center Publications, Box F
    1960 Kenny Road
    Columbus, Ohio 43210

Prices listed are in effect at the time of publication of this book. All prices include postage and handling. Prices are subject to change without notice.

Quantity Discounts

Orders of five (5) or more items, as listed by publication number and title, with a total dollar value for the order of:

    $ 50 to $100, the discount is 5%
    $101 to $200, the discount is 10%
    $201 to $300, the discount is 15%
    $301 to $400, the discount is 20%
    $401 and above, the discount is 25%

International Orders

All orders, in any amount, from outside the United States and its possessions are to be paid in U.S. currency. Additional postage and handling charges may be added for foreign shipments if necessary

Microcomputer Courseware Evaluation Guide: Form and Guide
for Vocational and Technical Education

Developed by:
Shirley A. Chase
Ruth Gordon
Richard C. Makin

For Further Information Contact:
The Program Information Office
National Center for Research in Vocational Education
The Ohio State University
1960 Kenny Road
Columbus, Ohio 43210
800-848-4815 or 614-486-3655 in Ohio