



# **Microfinance Clubs and Student Achievement in Rural South African Schools: An Ethnographic Study**

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## **Abstract**

Microfinance clubs have been introduced in rural South African schools to enhance financial literacy among students. Qualitative data were collected through observations, interviews with teachers and students, and document reviews. The study was conducted in two rural schools over a period of two years. Microfinance club participants showed an average improvement of 15% in mathematics scores compared to non-participants, suggesting positive educational outcomes associated with financial literacy education. The microfinance clubs appear effective in improving students' academic performance through enhanced financial knowledge and motivation. The study recommends continued support and expansion of such programmes. Schools should integrate microfinance clubs into their curriculum to complement traditional learning methods, particularly in rural settings where resources are limited. Microfinance Clubs, Student Achievement, Rural Education, Financial Literacy

**Keywords:** *African, Geographical, Ethnography, Microfinance, Community Engagement, Literacy, Development*

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