

## **Analysing Stem Student Interests in Developing Critical Thinking Skills in Pakistan**

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**Abstract :** STEM Education and Critical Thinking Skills are important 21st-century skills. STEM Education is necessary to promote secondary school students' critical thinking skills. These skills are critical for teachers to respond to students. Pakistan is in the preliminary stages of integrating STEM Education in institutions like other developing countries. Unfortunately, most secondary school students in Pakistan are unaware of STEM Education and teachers are not applying critical thinking skills in classrooms. The study's objectives mainly deal with; to identify the importance of STEM Education in the teaching-learning process; to find out the factors affecting critical thinking skills that can develop interest in students in STEM Education and suggestions on how to improve critical thinking skills in students regarding STEM Education. This study was descriptive. The population of the study was secondary school students. Data was collected from 200 secondary school students through a questionnaire. The research results show that critical thinking skills develop interest in students towards STEM Education.

**Keywords :** STEM education, teachers, students, critical thinking skills, teaching and learning process

**Conference Title :** ICTES 2024 : International Conference on Teaching and Education Sciences

**Conference Location :** Rome, Italy

**Conference Dates :** October 10-11, 2024