

## **Survey Investigation of Perceptions of Technologists among Primary Students: Stereotypes, Diversity, and Their Use of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics**

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**Abstract :** Gaining career awareness in STEM is an important educational outcome in STEM education. While many studies focused on students' understanding of scientists and engineers, very few studies explore students' perceptions of technologists as a group of STEM professionals. In this study, 300 valid surveys which include drawing task and follow-up questions about technologist were collected from 4th to 6th grade students. The results showed that 75.1% of the students draw a technologist as a male and 19.3% draw a technologist as a female. Most students believe that technologists use math, science or engineering in their work and can name a few categories of technologists. The drawings also showed that students tend to present technologists as people who work with a computer.

**Keywords :** STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education, elementary students, technologist, STEM careers

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