**THE USE OF *DISCOVERY LEARNING* MODEL FOR IMPROVING THE CONCEPTUAL UNDERSTANDING OF ENERGY RESOURCES, ALTERATION, AND ITS UTILIZATION**

**(A Research on Class Activity with Energy Saving Theme (Subtheme II: Study of Energy Utilization I) in 4th Grade of SDN Panghegar, Kecamatan Panyileukan, Bandung Academic Year 2014/2015)**

**ABSTRACT**

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This research is entitled “The Use of Discovery Learning Method for Improving the Conceptual Understanding of Energy Resources, Alteration, and Its Utilization”. This was conducted due to the lack of students’ average grades caused by the methods used i.e. one-way-lecture, inadequate preparation of the teacher, and the inappropriate of understanding concept as well as the learning models.

The design used in this research was PTK model consisting of two cycles. Each cycle covers the planning, actualizing, observing, and reflecting stages. The result shows that on the first cycle, the students’ accomplishment was 47.5%. On the second cycle which was the remedial of the posttest result on the first cycle, there was improvement on the percentage of accomplishment as much as 92.5%. This was due to the “discovery learning” model applying scientific approach, thus, involving students to be more active while the teacher acts as a facilitator.

As the conclusion, the use of discovery learning method is able to improve the conceptual understanding about energy resources, alteration, and its utilization especially in the fourth grade of elementary school. Therefore, this model can be used as one of the alternative methods in learning and teachers are expected to apply this method in another subject especially in thematic learning in order to enhance the quality of learning.

**Keywords:** Thematic learning, discovery learning method, improving conceptual understanding.