

Development of Braille Number Card As Learning Media on Integer Materials for Blind Students

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ABSTRACT

Losing vision for blind students makes them difficult to access education. Thus, blind students need special tools like interesting and applicable learning media, teaching methods, and techniques for them. This study was developmental research that aimed to describe the result of instructional media development of braille number card to improve blind students' understanding on integer number and describe their understanding after using braille number card as learning media at special needs elementary school. The subjects of this study consisted of three students with low vision, partially sighted students, and blind students. The research model used was ADDIE development model (analysis, design, development, implementation, and evaluation). Data were collected using test and questionnaire to know their understanding of braille number card as learning media on integer numbers. The result showed that blind students responded positively with an average score of 83% and 66.7% of their learning test. Therefore, It can be concluded that braille number card as instructional media can be used in teaching and learning activity to improve blind students' understanding.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Mathematics learning is the process of providing students with learning experiences through a series of planned activities so they can master mathematics competence. NCTM (2000: 64) Mathematics innovative learning requires an understanding of what students know and need to learn and challenges and supports them to learn it well.

Special needs School is an institution that accommodates students with special needs. One of them is students with low vision, commonly called students with visual impairment. The International Classification of Functioning (2007) defines disability the outcome of the interaction between a person with impairment and the environmental and attitudinal barriers they may face. Especially visually impaired term that includes, blind and partially sighted. Blind people can be understood as a condition in which a person is unable to see things clearly. Efendi (2008: 18) state that blind student is defined as s person whose sense of vision does not function as means to receive daily information like an normal person. Losing vision makes blind students difficult to access education.

Thus, blind students need special tools like an interesting and applicable learning media, teaching methods and techniques for them. While according to Ormrod (2008: 252), blind students are categorized into two categories: students with total blindness and students with low vision

Based on interview in Januari 2018 with some mathematic teachers at SLB in Gorontalo, such as SLB Negeri Kota Gorontalo and SLB Negeri Kabupaten Bon Bolango, resulted information that blind students in elementary school are challenged at addition and subtraction of integers. Integers are an abstract material. The abstraction can be seen from the negative integers that are rarely used in everyday life so that students often make mistakes in determining the integer multiplication and division. Kristiono (2008: 3) besides, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division are foundation of mathematics. Understanding the basic concepts of integers, especially integer multiplication and division supports mastery of further concepts, because many materials are related with concept of integer

multiplication and division. Sudijono (2009: 112) Understanding is a higher level of thinking than knowing and memorization. Therefore, learning media is needed to improve blind students' understanding on integer operation. Fredy & Sunaryo (2013: 163) state that "Addition and subtraction are important parts of life and you don't usually go through a day without needing to add or subtract something. addition and subtraction are also the building blocks for more advanced math".

Widjaya (2014: 21) state that that media used by visually impaired students are reading boards (Regular), Reglete and Stylus (pen) manual stationery, Braille typewriter (Perkins Braille), cassette. Learning media applied to blind students in some special needs schools includes: braille reading aids (letterhead and optacon board); numerical aids (Cubaritma, Abacus / Abacus, Speech calculators), as well as audio aids such as tape-recorders.

Blind students cannot use their sense of sight, but they can still use other senses, like the sense of hearing and touch. Therefore the use of learning media that can utilize the senses of hearing and touch is a special learning media for blind students, which aims to help students in counting. Azmi (2016: 62) states that education is the basis for the process of forming the nation's next generation.

Learning media used by writer was braille number card that helped students to solve the calculation problems, especially integer multiplication and division by optimizing their sense of touch.

The purpose of this study was to describe the development of braille number card as learning media on integer numbers for blind student learning and to describe their understanding of integer material after using braille number card.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

This study was development research using ADDIE development model consisting of Analyze, Design, Development, Implementation and Evaluation. Subjects of this study were 5 students with special needs at SDLB type A for trial test while 3 student with special needs at SDLB type A were treated using this media. Subject were selected by providing an initial test on integer materials of blind students at SDLB-A to obtain equal ability.

Gustafson and Branch (2002: 15) said that in the instructional development of learning or instructional development, the main core of the ADDIE process is the analysis of the background and needs of students, the design of a set of specifications for an effective, efficient and relevant learning environment, development of all learning materials and arranging the material, implementing the instructions produced, and formative and summative evaluations both the results of

development. Mulyaningsih (2014:201) the following explained these five stages of development adapted to this study.

Tabel 1. ADDIE developmental model stages

Stages of development	Activity
<i>Analysis</i>	Initial planning. So some analysis to procure new media products. Conduct needs analysis, student analysis and curriculum analysis. So that the products procuced can meet axisting needs, according to the characteristics of students and contained in the learning curriculum in SLB Kabupaten Bone Bolango
<i>Design</i>	Design the materal to be used. Learning media products and intructions for use Arrange the learning implementation plan used. Design instruments for media enhancements
<i>Development</i>	Develop product device with media validation by validator. Repaired according to the advice given Tested at SLB Kota Gorontalo
<i>Implementation</i>	Implementation of Braille number card media for blind students. Take data about the practicality of number card learning media through the media evaluation sheet by the teacher Take data on the effectiveness of numerical card learning media through student response questionnaire sheets and learning outcomes tests
<i>Evaluation</i>	Looking back on the impact of learning by looking at the data obtained at the implementation stage. Such as media evaluation sheets by giri, student response questionnaire sheets and tests of student learning comprehension..

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

This research produced a new product of Braille Numbers Card as learning media for students with visual impairment by optimizing their senses of touch. The subjects of this study were 3 blind students with different levels of blindness (low vision, partial blind and totally blind).

3.1. Analysis Stage

Needs analysis was conducted using interviews to teachers at SLB Bone Bolango to know the problems related to the process of learning mathematics. The obtained information was: the lack of learning media was found because of the limitations of media for students with visual impairment. Learning media used was still a manual media and objects around class. Thus, It was necessary to develop media that could help students learn about integer operations. Furthermore, the student analysis such as characteristics and the level of student blindness found were low vision, partial sighted and totally blind students, and analysed the level of students' interest in using learning media.

Curriculum analysis was also done by focusing on the basic competencies for students, such as multiplication and division of positive integer numbers, multiplication and division of negative integers and multiplication and division of mixed integers.

3.2. Design Stage

In this stage, the contents planning, product design, learning implementation design for students on multiplication and division of integers, the instrument framework and test of learning outcomes were conducted.

3.3. Development Stage

This media was modified from numbers Card used for normal students with different colors card. While, For blind students, the number cards used are the triangular form representing units, the quadrilateral representing the tens and circles representing hundreds. On two sides of number card were positive side with fine texture and negative side with coarse texture. the number Card is used as a learning media for blind students on multiplication and distribution of integers.

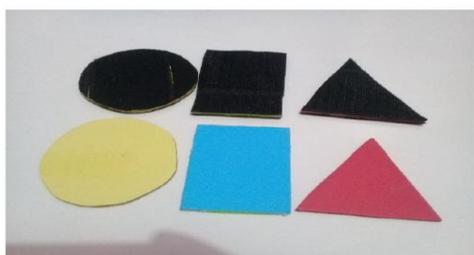


Figure 1. The Example Of Modified Braille Number Card

At the development stages, the media trial was developed based on results of evaluation analysis by teachers follows.

Table 2. Result of Evaluatin Analysis

No	Scoring indicator	Item	Score
1	Safe	1,2	2
2	Easy	2,4	2
3	Interesting	5	1
4	Trigering to move	6,7	2
5	Appropriate with the needs	8,9	1
6	Appropriate with the goal	10, 11, 12	2
7	Difficully to break	13	1
8	Appropriate to environment	14	1
Total		14	12

The Feasibility percentage was 85.71%. meaning that the media was categorized as very feasible / effective and the product could be used without scale.

3.4. Implementation Stage

The results showed the quality of media referring to validation results by the validator was very valid. Media practicability referring to media evaluation by the teacher was very practical with the percentage of 92.86%.

Table 3. Result Of Evaluation Validity

No	Scoring indicator	Item	Score
1	Safe	1,2	1
2	Easy	2,4	2
3	Interesting	5	1
4	Trigering to move	6,7	2
5	Appropriate with the needs	8,9	1
6	Appropriate with the goal	10, 11, 12	3
7	Difficully to break	13	1
8	Appropriate to environment	14	1
Total		14	13

In this study, the modified braille number card as learning media was conducted in 5 meetings by teacher for blind students.



Figure 2. Example of Braille number Card Media Usage

3.5. Evaluation Stage

Questionnaire given to students after the implementation of developed media. This questionnaire was aimed to find out the role of learning media for students. The average percentage of questionnaire given to studens was 83%, meaning that media was categorized as possitive.

Table 4. Results of student response questionnaire

Respondents	Statement										Percentage
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Rahmat	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	80%
Mey	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	90%
Melin	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	80%
Average Percentage											83%

The test for students' learning outcomes was conducted to know how far the role of developed braille number card media on students' knowledge of integer operation. It was done by giving them some problem about multiplication

material and integer division. The questions had been validated before. Test results showed that 66.7% of students achieved mastery of materials.

Table 5. Results of data analysis of student learning outcomes test

No	Respondents	Score of question indicator						Total	Total score	remark
		1	2	3	4	5	6			
		(20)	(26)	(11)	(20)	(12)	(16)			
1	Rahmat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Not completed
2	Mey	16	20	11	10	12	0	69	75	Completed
3	Melin	18	16	9	10	12	16	81	85	completed

3.5 Discussion

Hamalik (2001:80) state that improvement of students' understanding can be seen when they can explain and elaborate the material by using their own language in detail. In this study, Blind Students with three different levels of blindness can complete the test of learning outcomes where their score was above the determined mastery standard.

Kohanova (2013) state that "The most frequent mathematical problems of blind pupils are as follows: (1) generalizing – finding the similarities in different activities in everyday life; (2) translating activities and action into mathematical language; (3) lacking flexibility in problem solving and in calculations; and (4) translating and transferring three-dimensional objects into two-dimensional iconic forms.

The subjects are special because they had impaired vision condition. According to Widjaya (2014: 92) blind students use media that can be reached by sense of hearing and touch. In this study, the use of braille number card optimized the use of students' sensory senses. Braille number cards are considered practical and interesting to be used by students with visual impairment at SLB type A.

4. CONCLUSION

The developed Braille number cards as Learning media have been considered valid and practical so they can be used as an alternative learning media and can be used as an additional media for students with visual impairment. The results of student learning tests provide information

that the developed media can be used to improve students' learning comprehension

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