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ABSTRACTS BOOK

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IMPROVING YEAR 4 PUPILS SIGHT WORDS RECOGNITION IN SPELLING BY USING LET'S SPELL IT RIGHT (LeSPIR) DIGITAL SPELLING APPLICATION

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ABSTRACT

Let's Spell It Right (LeSPIR) Digital Spelling Application is an innovation on enhancing year 4 pupils sight words recognition as a way of improving pupils' skill in spelling. Most pupils tend to misspell words during spelling activity. Misspelling of words occurs because pupils did not recognize the words spelling structure or also known as orthography. This innovation aimed to identify the effectiveness of LeSPIR and pupils' interest in using LeSPIR. Participants are required to use the application by spelling different words by arranging letters correctly throughout the action. The words used in the application are selected from the common words in the textbook and are listed according to different categories. Pupils also used the dictionary, audio and quiz which is built in with the application to help them complete the spelling. After four times using LeSPIR, participants were able to spell words correctly by recognizing its spelling structure and they enjoyed using the game. Overall, the impact of using LeSPIR enabled pupils to reduce errors in spelling. For further improvement, it is suggested that pictures can be used when introducing words to pupils so that the spelling structure of those words can be recognized accurately.

1. INTRODUCTION

To become proficient in English Language, of course, there are many areas that need to be covered such as listening and speaking, reading, writing, and grammar. These are the core skills of the English Language that need to be learned during primary schooling. In the core skills of reading and writing, there is another sub skill that needs to be mastered by pupils which is spelling. The mastery of the language would not be successful without spelling. According to Hook & Jones (2009), spelling is an influencing factor as it helps to build fluency and automaticity which facilitate reading and writing skills. Spelling becomes the vital part that links to the success of reading and writing as both require pupils to excel in spelling in order to read fluently and write constructively. Johnson (2013) stress that pupils need to be able to spell accurately in order for spelling not to take a negative effect on their fluency and comprehension. Without correct spelling, both spoken and written language will affect the intended meaning and may lead to a misunderstanding.

2. MATERIAL AND METHOD

The material designed entitled "LeSPIR" which is the acronym of "Let's Spell It Right". It's a digital spelling application with combinations of different applications embedded in single usage. This application functions to increase pupil ability to spell words correctly by recognising its spelling structure. This application required pupils to arrange letters to form a word based on the hint given or based on the

pronunciation initiated by different users. The method used to achieve the objective which is to identify the effectiveness and participants' interest in using LeSPIR is through document analysis and interview.

2.1. Document Analysis & Interview

To identify the effectiveness, an assessment of initial and final assessment was conducted for the participants. Also, an interview was done to answer the second research questions which is participants' interest in using LeSPIR. The interview involved all the participants and it was done in semi-structured format.

2.1.1. Result for Data Analysis & Interview

All participants manage to show positive improvement between before the initial assessment and final assessment. Their scores increase almost between the range of 35% to 50% between both assessments done. This could prove that the use of LeSPIR gave an impact towards their score in the initial and final assessment. For the interview, the positive responses given by participants shows that they are interested in using LeSPIR in improving their learning of spelling of sight words. Every participant said yes when they were asked if LeSPIR gives them enjoyment and fun in the learning of spelling of words.
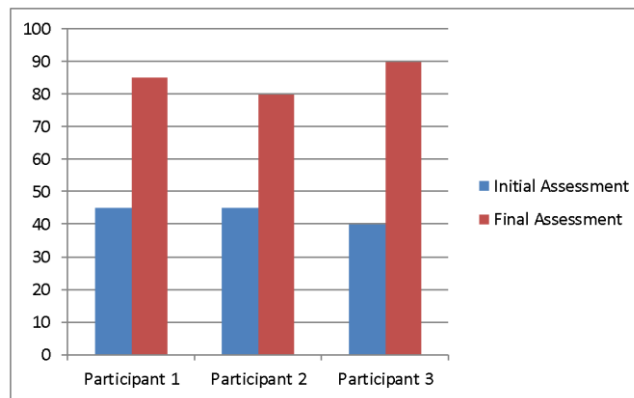

Figure 1. Analysis of Initial Assessment and Final Assessment Score

Table 1. Analysis of interview

No.	Questions	Responses (Summary)
1.	Do you enjoy using LeSPIR?	Yes
2.	Are you motivated to learn using LeSPIR?	Yes
3.	Do you have fun learning to spell using LeSPIR?	Yes

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Sekian, terima kasih.

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