

**UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA**

**WEAKNESS IN COPING WITH THE  
MULTIPLICATION OPERATION AMONG  
YEAR 6 PUPILS IN SK RPR BATU KAWA  
KUCHING, SARAWAK  
AND STRATEGIES TO OVERCOME IT**

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## ABSTRACT

This action research discusses the weakness of Year 6 pupils in SK RPR Batu Kawa, Kuching, Sarawak in mastering multiplication operations and strategies to overcome it. In mathematics subject, my pupils' encounter difficulties in mastering multiplication operations, particularly involving the multiplication numbers of two digits with two digits and three digits with two digits without regrouping and regrouping. This research aimed to identify weaknesses in coping with multiplication operations among the Year 6 pupils, to determine the factors that contribute to the weakness of learning the multiplication operation and to identify strategies to overcome weaknesses among the pupils with the multiplication operation in learning mathematics. The research was conducted in SK RPR Batu Kawa, Kuching, Sarawak and involving 30 pupils from Year 6. To obtain data for this study, I utilized two techniques : Pre-Test and Post-Test and two methods : questionnaires and observations. I also introduced various strategies to increase pupils' interest and proficiency in multiplication operation such as introducing Smart Table Game, drilling exercise involving multiplication operations and implement various intervention programs. The techniques, methods and strategies introduced by me can improve, help and recover the achievement of pupils in mastering multiplication operation. In the future, teachers can use these techniques and methods to identify factors that cause pupils susceptibility in mastering multiplication operation in school and adopt the strategy that has been practiced by me in this study. This will make learning mathematics more fun, enjoyable and at the same time improve the skills of pupils in solving mathematical problems.

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## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.0 Introduction

Nowadays, the use of mathematics has increased widely and influence all walks of life. If before, mathematics is only use for reference, but today the role of mathematics covers a wide range of human activities such as data processing, simulation, decision-making and communication. In mathematics learning, Kassim, N.S (2013) explains that the multiplication skills in Mathematics is an important element that needs to be mastered by pupils. Their failure to master the multiplication tables will cause them to fall behind or will fail in these subjects.

There are four basic facts that need to be mastered by pupils; addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Among these four basic facts, pupils face difficulty and have problems in mastering basic facts multiplication tables. Basic facts multiplication table, or better known as multiplication operation is one of the most important skills in mathematics teaching and learning in schools. Mastery of these basic facts should start when pupils are on Level 1.

Various approaches, strategies, methods and techniques of teaching were used by teachers to improve multiplication skills among pupils. Among them is the use of finger techniques, methods of singing, math games and mental training