

Elementary Students' Gadget Exposure to Gadgets and Digital Media

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Abstract

It is not only adults who own gadgets such as mobile phones, tablets, portable game devices and other digital gadgets. In fact, many elementary school-aged children already have their own gadgets or, at least, they may be allowed to use gadgets that belong to family members and other people they relate to. So what content do children access? For what purposes? For how long do they use gadgets? This study focuses on elementary school students in grades 4-6 (generally aged 9-12). This research explores this aged-group's exposure to and use of gadgets and digital media.

Researchers used a descriptive-quantitative approach, including survey data and recruited participants from Al-Fath Elementary School, Serpong City, Banten Province, Indonesia. Fourth-sixth grade students were recruited in class time through the distribution of questionnaires. Researchers and teachers were available to help with any questions that arose.

Results are currently being analysed. They are expected to provide an overview of children's use of gadgets within a grade 4-6 elementary school cohort. The data will indicate the amount of time that digital gadgets are used by these children each day, the contents children use on the gadgets, and the reasons children give for their media use. Findings are expected to provide input into policy and advice, especially to parents, helping them to assist and supervise their children interacting with gadgets.

Keywords: children's digital media exposure, children's media use, student in grade 4-6, parents, teachers.