

The Alternative Teaching Materials for Special Needs Children in Distance Learning

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ABSTRACT

Teaching materials contain the core of a material concept that is systematically arranged. That makes it easier for students with special needs to achieve specific competencies. Distance learning during a pandemic requires teaching materials that are relevant, practical, and accommodating. In fact, teachers face difficulty in delivering the content of the subjects during a pandemic. The activities were carried out in the form of giving assignments through pencil and paper-based worksheets. This study aimed to determine the needs of special school teachers in designing teaching materials. The research used a survey and collected the data through open questionnaires. The research subjects were 115 special school teachers in Yogyakarta Special Region. The researcher analyzed the data in descriptive statistics of percentages graphs, and they were described narratively. The results showed that teachers need printing and e-learning modules that are accessible based on students' characteristics, at 87%, while the needs for the contents that are related to students' daily activities to increase students' self-independences, at 93.81%, and the needs for managing the interactive materials in order to improve the basic concepts understanding in the academic area, at 93.81%.

Kata Kunci: *distance learning* , *special needs children*, *teaching materials*,