

**INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA FOR ENHANCING ACQUISITION OF
NUMERACY SKILLS AMONG PRE-PRIMARY SCHOOL
CHILDREN IN NAIROBI CITY COUNTY, KENYA**

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**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL
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KENYATTA UNIVERSITY**

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DECLARATION

I declare that this project is my original work and has not been presented in any other university/institution for consideration. This research project has been complemented by referenced sources duly acknowledged. Where text, data, graphics, pictures or tables have been borrowed from other sources, including the internet, these are specifically accredited and references cited in accordance with anti-plagiarism regulations.

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This research project has been submitted for appraisal with my approval as the University Supervisors.

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ABSTRACT

Instructional media can help learners in practicing visualization of a problem. It can also motivate learners to explore mathematical concepts and understand the value of maths in day-to-day life. Studies conducted on the use of instruction media show that their use during teaching improves pupils' mastery of concepts and skills. Additionally, it was found that failure to use instruction media makes concepts too abstract for children and may cause poor performance in other learning activity areas. Reports have indicated a decreasing rate of acquisition of numeracy skills in Kenya. This study therefore purposed to determine the utilization of instructional media on acquisition of numeracy skills among pre-primary school children in Kasarani Sub County, Kenya. The study was guided by the following objectives: to establish the frequency of use of instructional media on acquisition of numeracy skills among pre-primary school children, to determine the teacher's perception on use of instructional media on the acquisition of numeracy skills, to establish the ratio of sharing of instructional media among pre-primary school children and to find out the challenges experienced by teachers in the using of instructional media among pre-primary school children. The study was guided by Kolb's Experiential Learning Theory, which emphasizes on experience with instructional media as the basis on which concepts are developed. The study targeted a population of 204, comprising of 136 pre-primary school teachers and 68 head teachers in Kasarani Sub-County. A sample size of 61 participants, comprising of 20 head teachers, 41 pre-primary school teachers were sampled from 20 pre-primary schools. Data was collected using a questionnaire, interview schedule, and observation checklist. To ensure validity and reliability of the study instruments, content validity and split half technique were used respectively. The study employed descriptive research design and analysed qualitative data thematically and the responses were captured in the analysis. Quantitative data was analysed using frequencies, percentages, means and standard deviation. The analysis process was facilitated by SPSS software Version 21. Qualitative data was analysed thematically based on the study objectives. The results showed that majority (53.6%) of the teachers were not using the instructional media regularly. In addition, the study established that all teachers had positive perceptions on use of Instructional Media in teaching of numeracy skills. Further, the study established that the schools had inadequate instructional materials which were shared in large groups. Finally, the study found out that the teachers were facing a number of challenges which had an influence on learners' acquisition of numeracy skills. Based on the findings, the study recommended that: the County government of Nairobi City should create professional development opportunities that promote use of instructional media in teaching and learning. The managements of pre-primary schools should encourage teachers to improvise Instructional Media from locally available materials. Parents should be sensitized on the importance of instructional materials in learning and be encouraged to support teachers by sourcing raw materials which can be used in improvising instructional media.