

Abstract

Children with mentally retarded have limitations in terms of learning how to read. Researchally, they have difficulties in combining multiple syllables into words. For example, to read more than one syllable, they will just read the first syllable. This condition happen because of the children is mentally retarded signed by lack of intelligence with an IQ below 84 or below average.

Therefore, a method that can easily help mentally retarded children learning how to read well is necessary. That method is phonetic method, which it taught how to read well by memorizing the sounds of every spectrum of letter of syllables.

From those problems, an application of learning for mentally retarded children how to read is necessary and that application named Gredio. Gredio is an application based on android that specially designed especially for mentally retarded children. That application using media such as voice, videos, images, and texts which built based on specifically learning system for children who have difficulties on how to read, how to mention some syllables, exercises and videos. A companion is needed to do the learning process with this application.

This application have been directly tested towards five mentally retarded students of SLB C YPLAB Wartawan, Bandung. From the test results gotten conclusion that this application can help teaching the children learn how to read if it used continuously. But this application also needed further development to improve the quality of materials and its functionalities.

Keywords: *mental retardation, mentally disabled children, application of learning, gredio, phonetic method*