

Accessibility of Digital Content in the General Education Setting

Perspectives of Students Who are Blind or Have Low Vision

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Disclosures

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Overview

- Background
- Problems
- Research Question
- Method
- Preliminary Findings
- What's Next?

Background

- Why me?
- Why this study?

Problems

- 1. Students who are blind or have low vision require accessible digital content at the same time as their fully sighted classmates**
- 2. General education teachers may not be prepared to create accessible digital content**
- 3. Retrofitting digital content to be accessible is problematic**
- 4. Providing inaccessible digital content may a) marginalize these students and b) negatively impact their educational experience**

Research Question

What preparations should general education teachers make prior to creating accessible digital content, especially for students who are blind or have low vision?

Method

- Study Design
- Materials
- Procedures
- Student Participants
- Data Sources
- Data Analysis

Method: Study Design

- Focus Groups

Method: Materials

- Web conferencing technology
- Digital documents

Method: Procedures

- 1. Student Recruitment and Participation**
- 2. Student Data Analysis**
3. Subject Matter Expert Recruitment and Participation
4. Teacher Recruitment and Participation
5. Resource Development and Sharing
 - a. Student Focus Group Findings
 - b. Resource Draft
6. Mixed Focus Groups
7. Resource Refinement

Method: Student Participants

- Recruitment
- Inclusion criteria
- Demographics

Method: Data Sources

- Focus Group Transcripts

Method: Data Analysis

- Qualitative coding

Question 1

What technologies do you use to access digital content?

Question 2

How do you review digital content to determine if it's accessible (if at all)?

Question 3

What are some typical accessibility problems with digital content?

Question 4

What steps have you taken once determining that digital content is not accessible?

Question 5

What school subjects are problematic for accessibility of digital content?

Question 6

How did you feel when a classroom teacher gave you digital content that wasn't accessible from the beginning?

Question 7

How did you feel when a classroom teacher gave you digital content that was accessible from the beginning?

Question 8

Who is responsible for creating accessible digital content? Who should be responsible for it?

Question 9

What do you want classroom teachers to know about creating accessible digital content?

Question 10

What are your observations of your teachers' attitudes and behaviors toward creating accessible digital content?

Question 11

If you could determine what the rules are for making accessible digital content, what rules should exist or be followed?

Question 12

How could your classroom teachers be better prepared for providing you with accessible digital content?

Question 13

What's one final thing about digital content and accessibility that you would want to share?

What's Next?

- **Subject Matter Expert Participation**
- **Teacher Recruitment and Participation**
- **Resource Development and Refinement**

Thank You!

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