

**INTRODUCTION TO TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC SIGNS FOR ABA
MENTARI KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS AT POLTRADA BALI CAMPUS**

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ABSTRACT

Traffic regulations need to be followed by every road user to support orderly, safe, secure, and smooth traffic. The lack of public understanding of traffic laws also poses a separate issue. This should be improved and enhanced to achieve safe and secure traffic. Basic understanding of proper traffic behavior needs to be instilled in young children, such as kindergarten-aged children, so that when they grow into teenagers, they still know how to follow traffic rules correctly. An outreach activity was conducted for the students of TK Aba Mentari at the Bali Land Transportation Polytechnic, located at Jalan Cempaka Putih, Samsam, Kerambitan District, Tabanan Regency, Bali Province. The implementation of this outreach activity was carried out in three stages: the identification stage, the outreach stage, and the evaluation stage. This outreach activity also required media, rooms, equipment, and hands-on practice. The activity was held in the Mini Theater of Building B, which is equipped with good facilities that make the participants comfortable. The media used in this activity included interesting and easy-to-understand presentation materials and the distribution of material books. The increase in knowledge and understanding of traffic signs among all participants can be considered quite good, thus serving as a provision for their life at school, home, and in the community.

Keywords: early age; outreach; signs; students; traffic

INTRODUCTION

Land transportation activities are regulated by Law Number 22 of 2009 concerning Traffic and Road Transportation. With the existence of this law, it is hoped that security, comfort, safety, order, and smoothness in traffic will be created in the traffic space. Traffic and Road Transport (LLAJ) play an important role in supporting national development, especially in improving public welfare. (Nugroho dalam Siswanto et al., 2023). Traffic regulations need to be followed by every road user to support orderly, safe, secure, and smooth traffic. Drivers on the highway should understand the meaning of traffic signs on the road, whether they are in the form of signs, traffic lights, sound or light warnings, and other regulations or provisions that support orderly traffic. Road users who do not understand traffic signs will potentially disrupt traffic order or commit traffic violations. Traffic violations are actions committed by someone driving a public vehicle or motor vehicle, as well as pedestrians, that are contrary to the applicable laws and regulations. (Nurfauziah & Krisnani, 2021). The public's lack of understanding of traffic laws is certainly a problem in itself. That should be improved and enhanced to create safe and secure traffic. Considering the increasing number of motor vehicles every day, accompanied by a decline in public legal awareness. All parties certainly have a role in resolving issues related to traffic that is safe and in accordance with existing laws. This can start with understanding the traffic signs on the highway. This understanding should begin early so that when they become drivers in the future, they can be aware of the

safety signs on the highway and can become safe drivers who comply with and adhere to the existing laws.

At a young age, they indeed cannot commit traffic violations. However, for young children such as kindergarteners, it is necessary to instill the basics of proper and correct traffic understanding. So that when they reach their teenage years, they still know the correct way to navigate traffic. It is hoped that by providing knowledge about traffic signs from an early age, vehicle drivers will adhere more to traffic signs, reduce traffic accident rates, and become more disciplined in driving. Traffic problems that arise are often caused by drivers who do not fully understand traffic signs such as markings or signals. With the implementation of educational activities on traffic sign comprehension from an early age, it is hoped that their awareness of good and correct traffic behavior and adherence to traffic rules will begin to develop from a young age. Thus, in the future, a better traffic system will emerge.

The purpose of conducting this outreach activity is:

- a. So that cadets can gain experience, skills, problem-solving abilities, and communication ethics skills in the work environment.
- b. So that cadets can understand safety, security, service, and health.
- c. To practice the theories obtained in lectures in terms of operational learning experience.
- d. Cadets are able to collect and process data as a field for analysis and provide alternatives and solutions.

METHOD

The outreach activity was conducted for the students of TK Aba Mentari at the Bali Land Transportation Polytechnic located on Jalan Cempaka Putih, Samsam, Kerambitan District, Tabanan Regency, Bali Province. The implementation of this outreach activity was carried out in three stages: the identification stage, the outreach stage, and the evaluation stage. Results will be obtained after completing these three stages.

Identification

Awareness of traffic discipline needs to be possessed by everyone, not just adults, but also young children to reduce the risk of traffic accidents. Therefore, this is the importance of providing traffic safety education to children from an early age. Besides making them aware of the laws and regulations on the road, they will also be instilled from an early age to follow the rules and be aware of their surroundings. As we know, there have been many traffic accidents on the road caused by various factors. Not to mention the lack of public education that neglects road safety. We also need to explain to the child that traffic discipline is not only practiced by those who drive or operate vehicles. It means that pedestrians must also obey traffic rules. Here are examples of traffic signs that need to be introduced to children, namely warning signs, prohibition signs, guidance signs, and traffic light signs such as red lights, yellow lights, and green lights. In addition to building knowledge about traffic signs, we also need to explain these important points to children, namely about road markings, zebra crossings, and sidewalks. Another important point in providing basic traffic education is teaching children how to cross the street. Because crossing the street incorrectly can cause accidents for both oneself and others. Usually, children choose to run when crossing the street because they are afraid of being hit by vehicles, but this method can actually endanger other drivers because it can be surprising and trigger a collision. The easiest way to teach a child to cross the street is to practice it directly.

Teaching children traffic ethics from an early age is very important for their safety. With traffic safety education, they will be responsible for vehicle use in the future. In educating children, we must create clear and engaging learning experiences when introducing traffic signs to them through play and using learning media that can display various information, whether through sound, images, movements, and colors, both naturally and through manipulation, thus creating a more vibrant, non-monotonous, and non-boring learning atmosphere.

Counseling

Counseling is conducted using various methods, both direct and indirect, to deliver material to the students of TK Aba Mentari. This method involves direct meetings in the mini theatre room of building B and the Workshop or Laboratory building, with a schedule agreed upon between TK Aba Mentari and the Counseling Members. The extension team consists of cadets and staff from the Bali Land Transportation Polytechnic. The focus of the extension is more on socialization and interaction based on the transportation materials that have been designed.

Evaluation

In every activity we have conducted, we will always evaluate it to reduce mistakes that may occur in future activities and to improve what was lacking in the previous day's activities. The evaluation is conducted immediately after the activity and involves other groups that will conduct outreach to provide suggestions and feedback for future outreach.

Result

The outreach conducted for the children of TK Aba Mentari made them aware of traffic signs and educated them on how to be safe as road users by providing an understanding of traffic signs and their meanings, so they can be more cautious and understand the importance of traffic safety.

General Activity of Counseling for Abbah Mentari Kindergarten Students at Poltrada Bali Campus

The event began with a speech from the head of the Academic Administration and Cadet Affairs section of the Bali Land Transportation Polytechnic, Mr. Kodrat Alam S.Si.T., M.T., followed by a presentation on traffic signs and their explanations by the Diploma Three students of the Road Transportation Management Study Program. The activity takes place from 10:00 AM WITA to 12:00 PM WITA. The activities took place in the Minitheater, Workshop, and the Poltrada Bali environment. The activities proceeded according to the schedule, and the younger siblings from TK Aba Mentari enjoyed the activities held at Poltrada Bali, as well as being able to understand the types of signs and their functions explained by the cadets of Poltrada Bali.

The activities conducted during the outreach for TK ABA Mentari students at the Poltrada Bali campus included, among others:

1. Activity of watching an educational video on sign recognition in the Minitheater The first activity is watching an educational video on sign recognition prepared by the Cadets of Poltrada Bali. The purpose of this first activity is for participants to be able to understand prohibition signs, command signs, guidance signs, and warning signs. The selection of animated traffic sign introduction videos conducted at the Poltrada Bali minitheater aims to ensure that the participants, who are students of TK Aba Mentari, do not feel bored

- even while learning. The participants feel happy and understand each educational video on traffic sign introduction.
2. Literacy Q&A activity about traffic signs in the minitheater The second activity is a literacy Q&A session where cadets ask questions to the students of TK Aba Mentari. After watching an educational video about traffic signs that helps TK Aba Mentari students recognize traffic signs, the session continues with a Q&A to help the students remember and understand traffic signs better. The result of this Q&A activity is that the students are enthusiastic and able to answer the questions asked.
 3. Ice breaking activity in between the event rundown The third activity is the ice breaking activity. This activity aims to make all participants feel joy by playing the games prepared by the committee. The activity is conducted for 5 minutes. This activity is conducted by inviting students to interact by asking simple questions; students who dare to interact will be rewarded with chocolate.
 4. Activity of recognizing signs in the Workshop After conducting the activity in the minitheater, the activity moved to the workshop. The participants' activity in the workshop is education on recognizing signs directly. The students can see and hold the signs. The purpose of this activity is for the students to have the experience of seeing the signs up close and directly, of course under the supervision of the committee to ensure the safety of the TK Aba Mentari students during the workshop.
 5. Activity of recognizing signs in the Poltrada Bali environment using the campus bus The final activity was the TK Aba Mentari students along with their chaperones boarding the bus provided by Poltrada Bali. The participants toured the campus using the bus and observed the signs in the Poltrada Bali campus environment.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Identification

As an early childhood education institution, TK Aba Mentari certainly wants its students to know and understand the traffic signs on the road. This is what identifies the problem in this extension activity. In this counseling session, there are several fundamental things that at the very least need to be known by students aged five to six years. There are materials provided, namely traffic lights, traffic signs, road markings, and crossing procedures. The material provided is certainly adjusted to the level of understanding of kindergarten-age students. This material was prepared by cadets and lecturers from the Road Transportation Management Study Program at the Bali Land Transportation Polytechnic. In this outreach activity, media, rooms, equipment, and direct practical sessions are also needed. The media used in this activity includes interactive presentation materials containing engaging and easy-to-understand educational videos, as well as the distribution of material books to the students of TK Aba Mentari. The room used is the mini theater room in Building B of Poltrada Bali Campus Tabanan. This room is spacious enough to accommodate participants comfortably and has adequate facilities for presenting materials. The facilities include a large monitor screen, an adequate sound system, comfortable seating, and a well-functioning air conditioner. The equipment used in this outreach includes prizes for participants who can answer questions from the speaker and traffic signs as teaching media.

Counseling

The counseling was conducted using the extension method, which involved delivering material through presentation activities and direct practice on the Poltrada Bali campus and Workshop Building. This activity was carried out directly by inviting the students of TK Aba Mentari to engage in discussions and answer questions provided about traffic signs and safe

crossing procedures. The students were then taken to see the different types of traffic signs and tour the Poltrada Bali campus using a School Bus, where they practiced the correct and proper way to cross the street. Members of the traffic sign comprehension activity from the Bali Land Transportation Polytechnic, consisting of 15 cadets. This extension emphasizes discussion and direct practice in the field to provide participants with hands-on experience.



Figure 1. Extension Activity at the Minitheater Building



Figure 2. Outreach Activity at the Workshop Building

Evaluation

Evaluation of this counseling was conducted to determine whether the understanding of the students at TK Aba Mentari has increased or not. At the beginning of the meeting, several questions related to traffic signs were given, and only a small portion of the participants were able to answer them. Meanwhile, at the end of the counseling, it was observed that most participants understood and comprehended the meaning of traffic signs. The most noticeable increase in understanding is in the section on understanding traffic signs and crossing procedures. It was observed at the end of the counseling session when the participants were taken to the Poltrada Bali Workshop, that the participants were already able to apply the correct way to cross at the zebra crossing between the Classroom Building and the Workshop Building. The procedures had already been taught and explained in the mini theater room. During the workshop, it was evident that the students' understanding had improved because the workshop itself included various signs, and when the participants were asked, most of them were able to answer correctly. This shows that the participants' knowledge and understanding of traffic signs have increased.

Result

The result obtained after the counseling activity was that the students of TK Aba Mentari became more knowledgeable and familiar with the types of traffic signs. The students have gained new knowledge about traffic signs that they often see on the road, which are in the form of road signs. Because in this activity, they were also given material about the functions of these signs, they became more understanding of the meanings conveyed through these signs. The application of the knowledge they gained is reflected in their ability to recognize, understand, decide, and act according to the instructions and information they get from the road signs installed on the road. Starting from seeing the signs, then recognizing the meaning of those signs, they will decide what steps to take. Finally, they will act according to the decision they made after analyzing the information obtained from the signs seen on the road

while in traffic. After the extension activities are carried out, they also provide knowledge that brings impact. The knowledge they gain about traffic signs can have a positive impact on their daily lives, whether as pedestrians, cyclists, or drivers in the future. Students can become agents of change in their environment by sharing the knowledge they have about traffic safety with their peers and family.

CONCLUSION

The outreach on understanding traffic signs, including signals, road markings, and proper crossing methods, was conducted with participants from the students of TK Aba Mentari Tabanan. The understanding that is still very low is in the aspect of road markings. After conducting outreach, there was an increase in understanding of traffic signs, including signals, road markings, and crossing methods. The final assessment results of the improvement in understanding across all aspects and all participants can be said to be quite good. Outreach activities on understanding traffic signs to schools can be conducted more extensively with materials that meet the needs. Especially for early childhood students, so that their awareness of good and correct traffic behaviour and traffic compliance starts to develop from a young age. So that in the future, good traffic will emerge.

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