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I Snagbet: The Blaan Games Repository

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Abstract

This study explored the cultural, educational, and social significance of traditional Blaan games in Barangay Poblacion, Malapatan, Sarangani Province, through the development of a digital[1]repository called I Snagbet. Recognizing the limited documentation of these indigenous games and their gradual disappearance due to modernization, the research aimed to preserve and promote Blaan heritage by identifying various traditional games and showcasing them via a user-friendly web-based platform. Guided by a Research and Development (R&D) approach and employing a qualitative research design, the study utilized the Successive Approximation Model (SAM) and the Input-Process-Output (IPO) framework to create a culturally grounded digital prototype. Data were collected through interviews, observations, and desk reviews involving five (5) Blaan tribal elders and cultural bearers. The study found that games like Kmisong (fire-making), Gamti (archery), Skuya (footrace), and others not only serve recreational purposes but also transmit indigenous knowledge, moral values, and physical fitness. These traditional activities encourage cooperation, resilience, and identity-building among the youth while also enhancing educational outcomes when integrated into physical education programs. The study concluded that digital platforms can bridge traditional knowledge with modern accessibility, ensuring cultural continuity. It recommends integrating Blaan games into school curricula via the Indigenous Peoples Education (IPED) framework and conducting community-based programs to revitalize cultural practices. The I Snagbet prototype serves as a culturally sensitive, educational tool that celebrates and safeguards Blaan heritage, offering a sustainable model for other Indigenous cultural preservation efforts in the digital age.

Keywords: Indigenous Games, Educational Technology, SDG 11 and SDG 9.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1D_V-H9blmwWmF1oljwJjceUwullVhNy-/edit?usp=drivesdk&oid=108901770106601270775&rtpo

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