Context

Field test in the central library on three Thursdays at distinct times, 8-10 AM, 11 AM-1 PM, and 3-5 PM. Each session ran for two hours. Attendance at the shared table ranged from 5 to 13 students. The abacus concept was explained before use.

Method

Naturalistic observation with a convenience sample. Students placed counters in time slot columns to signal interest in short activities (only short walks were used for this research). We recorded activity count per session, participation rate per activity, and visible placement patterns.

Measures

- Activities per session (count only)
- Participation rate (number joining / number present)
- Interest clustering

Results

- Activities per session - 2 on the first (8-10AM) and last (3-5PM) trial, and 3 on the second (11AM-1PM)
- Average participation rate was 54.66%
- Participation rate per activity ranged from 37.5% to 69.23% of students present

	Session 1 (8-10AM)	Session 2 (11AM-1PM)	Session 3 (3-5PM)
Activity 1	3/8 people	6/9 people	3/6 people
Activity 2	5/9 people	9/13 people	2/5 people
Activity 3		7/11 people	

- Clear clustering, students preferred time slots that already contained counters
- Time-of-day pattern, interest peaked at midday, often paired with lunch, early morning and late afternoon were quieter but still active

Interpretation

The device supported quick, shared breaks and drew people into small groups without prompting. Clustering around non-empty time slots shows a simple social cue works to coordinate strangers. Participation reached a majority in several cases, and it did so repeatedly across three independent sessions. The midday peak suggests a strong fit with existing routines, while quieter windows still produced steady use.