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STRATEGIES AND EFFORTS TO INCREASE CHILDREN'S INTEREST IN READING IN GAMPONG MAMPLAM

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Abstract

The purpose of this study was to find alternatives to increase interest in reading among children, in an effort to overcome the low interest in reading. The interest in reading is one of the indicators of literacy progress as well as an indicator of the nation's progress. The step taken in this service is the existence of a mini library filled with interesting story books where every 5 days a week before starting activities in the holding of reading together, this strategy is made and implemented by students with the aim of increasing interest in reading in children in Mamplam Village, with frequent reading every day making children accustomed to reading activities. This strategy and effort shows the result that with the existence of a mini-library, it is able to develop an interest in reading in children in Gampong Mamplam, which becomes a change in children and more enthusiasm in reading.

Keywords: keyword 1, keyword 2, keyword 3 (maksimal 3 keyword).

A. INTRODUCTION

1. Background to the Problem

Thematic Community Service Lecture (KPM) is one of the intra-curricular courses that must be followed by all IAIN Lhokseumawe students with the guidance of Supervisory Lecturers and located in several areas, especially rural areas. KPM is a practical course that aims to train and equip students to apply knowledge, learn to solve various problems that occur in society, develop community potential, and have an attitude of partiality to small, weak, or marginalized communities.

During the KPM, students are expected to be able to provide and apply various things, including: experience, science, technology, art, and good values (Efendi & Pally Taran,

2022). The community will learn from students and vice versa students will gain a lot of knowledge from the community. Likewise with children, a lot of knowledge provided by students through creative and unique programs makes them more enthusiastic in learning (Andhika, et al., 2022). This kind of interaction and form of synergy is expected to emerge and make this program a fun program and have significant benefits for students, students play an active role in knowing the problems that exist in the community, even before they enter the KPM location in accordance with the established program, and are in the midst of the community (Efendi & Kasih, 2022).

To maintain the quality and quality of KPM activities, it is appropriate for KPM activities to be more contextual by changing the paradigm *of* change, *development* and habits (*wont*) (Ismail, et al., 2022). Because basically, every change won't change except with the habits that we change to become a constructive change. Thus the ultimate goal is to change children's habits, and create an interest in advancing oneself towards a better life to get a change (Machendrawaty & Safei, 2001).

The important role of KPM that has been described above is one of the programs in an effort to improve the quality of children by making changes and developments in the learning system, especially reading, one of these efforts is the Children's Reading Strategy and Interest in Gampong Mamplam. Interest in reading is the desire or tendency of a high heart (passion) to read (Siregar, 2004). This definition is in line with Darmono's opinion that reading interest is a tendency of the soul that encourages a person to do something about reading (Darmono, 2001).

The interest in reading not only grows from each person, but also needs support and encouragement from family and school. So to increase interest in reading, it is necessary to be aware and habitual that must be done at least an hour a day in the habit of reading (Noviandari & Gularso, 2022). So to make that habit, children in the village need a container equipped with cheerful books such as mini-perustkaan.

This strategy is intended to increase interest in reading in children in Gampong Mamplam, facing the challenges of an era where children are preoccupied with *gatged*. With the mini turning becomes a new place for children. Through a program that is cultivated every day reading with the strategy of reading sambal singing. In general, the children of Gampong Mamplam have the potential and enthusiasm to learn, especially in the field of arts and

religion. Considering that most of the children of gampong mamplam study and live in dayah, because gampong mamplam is one of the gampong who is very obedient to religion. But it cannot be denied that reading is very important. This is the responsibility of all parties, both families and educational institutions.

2. Conceptual Foundations or Theoretical Foundations

The basis for implementing this community service activity is one of the benchmarks for the extent of a sense of responsibility as students and academics in solving community problems, especially in rural areas. Such rapid changes in the times through technology make humans challenged to answer these changes in a positive direction, the use of *gatged* is inevitable. This requires people to follow the current development of the times through the use of gatged in children so that they do not focus on learning.

For this reason, the establishment of a mini-library containing story books, comics, even colored picture books and various other books.made the children of gampong mamplam interested in reading. This strategy becomes an important factor in creating interest in reading. So various steps need to be applied in creating interest in reading, one of which is through a mini-library containing story books, comics, even colored picture books and various other books.

3. Goals and Objectives of Activities

Thematic Community Service Lecture (KPM) is a learning and fieldwork activity that is an integration of elements of education and teaching, research, and community service through *interdisciplinary* and cross-sectoral approaches. Apart from being a fulfillment of KPM IAIN Lhokseumawe, and also based on the study above, this study aims to find out in its entirety about increasing children's interest in reading, with this activity can prepare superior seeds to become children who have a good interest in reading to become successors in the future. This activity was carried out in Gampong Mamplam, Nibong District, North Aceh Regency. Held for approximately 28 days from November 28 to December 28, 2022.

B. IMPLEMENTATION

1. Achievement Strategy

In its implementation, KPM activities with the theme of Strategies and Efforts to Increase Children's Interest in Reading in Gampong Mamplam by creating a Mini Library

reading activities are carried out every Monday to Monday. Friday, where every Saturday and Sunday Reading activities for children are not carried out, because there are other activities organized by students during the 28 days of KPM. Every village child is present every Monday until. Friday, which was at the beginning of the beginning of the activities of the target schools in reading cultivation.

2. Implementation

This effort to increase interest in reading was carried out by KPM students with the permission of Geuchik and gampong officials. In carrying out this activity, KPM students accompany the children and guide them in the reading process. Although children's reading ability is minimal, the existence of a mini library containing good story books with different variants of images makes children interested in reading. The benefit of having a library is not only for the container but also their togetherness that is formed where they can read while playing.

In its implementation, the activity efforts to increase interest involve students who play an active role in the activity and provide opportunities for parents to get used to reading habits at home. Efforts to increase interest in reading through a mini library are considered very important considering that the lack of demand for reading makes there a lack of children who want to read and even some do not know letters. Therefore, it is hoped that this program can make parents more actively involved in getting used to reading at home because it is not only the responsibility of the Investigating Agency but also the responsibility of parents.





Figure 1. Reading Activities with Children



Figure 2. IAIN Lhokseeumawe students and lecturers take a photo with the Mamplam Village Apparatus





Figure 3. KPM IAIN Lhokseumawe students take a photo with the children of Mamplam Village

3. Evaluation

The presence of IAIN Lhokseumawe students has basically helped Gampong Mamplam children in increasing their interest in reading by creating a mini library. In this implementation, it still takes enough time to guide the children in the learning process. Hope in the future for gampong mamplam children, hopefully they can use the mini library well not only as a place to play but also as a place to learn. And also the hope is for parents to give more direction and implement a mandatory reading system at home.

C. RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS

As a result of the activities during the KPM, students are expected to be able to provide and apply various things, including: experience, science, technology, art, and good

values. The community will learn from students and vice versa students will gain a lot of knowledge from the community (Patnani, 2013). Increasing interest in reading among children is an effort to overcome the low interest in reading. In addition, the results of this activity can foster curiosity, so reading is one of the activities that greatly affects human life. Children who like to read their knowledge will be very broad, in books stored various kinds of science.

Then the figure of parents here is very important in fostering children's interest and also the absence of representative space and the absence of books that are interesting for children to read, this causes the interest in reading among children not to increase. Although children's reading skills in Gampong Mamplam are still very minimal, with the existence of a mini library containing good story books with different variants of images, children are interested in reading and also with this library will make their forum for togetherness formed where they can learn to read while playing.

In this case, parents have an important role in fostering interest in reading in children, be it motivation or support for children. Therefore, parents must also participate by cultivating and setting an example, as well as implementing a reading routine at home, a way to foster interest in reading to children by providing facilities in the form of reading books or interesting media. Because education or lessons learned through schools alone are not enough, the role of parents and adequate support and facilities are needed.

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