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## Strengthening Early Education Literacy Culture through the Utilization of Reading and Writing Corners in Carangwulung Wonosalam Village Jombang Regency

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### ABSTRACT

**Background.** Reading is important in the teaching and learning process. Reading is the process of absorbing knowledge through reading or writing. Each student has varying abilities from fast, medium and slow in terms of reading.

**Purpose.** This study aims to improve habituation in students in increasing interest in reading.

**Method.** By holding literacy, it is hoped that it will be able to increase students' interest in reading and increase knowledge that can be a provision in the future in Carangwulung Wonosalam Village.

**Results.** The research subjects were children aged 7-12 years with data collection techniques by direct observation, interviews and documentation.

**Conclusion.** This research can be concluded that the reading corner is very helpful in fostering students' interest in reading in the classroom, the role of the reading corner in growing students' interest in reading, namely, as a place to read facilitator, as the closest reading material, a comfortable reading place and a place to read that attracts attention, so that from some of these roles it helps foster interest in reading.

### KEYWORDS

Activities, Corner, Reading

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### INTRODUCTION

Reading is an important activity in the teaching and learning process, because reading is the ability to absorb knowledge through text or reading (Becker & Jaakkola, 2020). We can find out information by reading, and we can add insight and can think critically (Gursoy dkk., 2019). Without reading, we cannot know what is happening in the world (Matarazzo dkk., 2021), and we cannot know the



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sciences that exist in the world, knowledge and teaching and learning. therefore reading is important in

In elementary school students, reading culture needs to be a habituation process (Zhao dkk., 2019). Habituation itself is the process of making something that makes someone accustomed, in relation to teaching methods it can be said that habituation is a way that can be done to get students used to thinking (Baabdullah dkk., 2019). Habits require persistence from a mentor.

The Abdimas Stikes Pemkab Jombang team has a new breakthrough innovation in order to increase interest in reading with the existence of reading corners in Carangwulung Village which are spread across 5 hamlets, namely Banyon Hamlet, Gondang Hamlet, Segunung Hamlet, Caranngwulung Hamlet, and Ngeseng Hamlet (Zhao & Bacao, 2020). Reading Corner is an activity carried out by children in the afternoon to read books that have been available in the corner of TPQ (Taman Pembelajaran Quran) in each hamlet (Kumar dkk., 2019). This reading corner also acts as a mini library in each class (Hu dkk., 2019). The function of the reading corner itself is to get used to reading books. It is also one of the programs to eradicate ignorance (Fernandes & Oliveira, 2021). Implementation of the program for conditioning so that children are not noisy during activities at TPQ, after students have finished doing the tasks given by the teacher, children are allowed to read books in the reading corner area while waiting for the recitation learning hours to finish.

The purpose of this research is to describe and analyze the existence of the reading corner activity which is a superior program in Carangwulung Village and which serves to improve the learning system and increase students' knowledge (Mehrolia dkk., 2021). This research can also be intended for students as a reference on improving literacy culture by utilizing the reading corner in Carangwulung Village as well as developing students' interest in writing.

## RESEARCH METHODS

### a. Research Subject

The object of this research is elementary school-age children (7-12 years) in Carangwulung Village, Wonosalam Sub-district, Jombang Regency.

### b. Place and Time of Implementation

Place: Banyon Hamlet, Gondang Hamlet, Segunung Hamlet, Caranngwulung Hamlet, and Ngeseng Hamlet, Carangwulung Village, Wonosalam District, Jombang Regency.

### c. Time: 4 weeks

### d. Type of Research

The type of research used is descriptive research. Descriptive research is related to the issue of research objectives (Kim dkk., 2019). Solving problems that exist at the present time is a matter of this research. The purpose of this research is to describe precisely the properties of an individual, situation, symptom, or certain group (Kaasinen dkk., 2020). This research also has 2 main characteristics (Zhao & Bacao, 2020), namely focusing on important problems, and describing the facts about the problem being investigated as accompanied by rational interpretation (Anshari dkk., 2019). Descriptive research is generally collected through documentation, interviews, and observation. (Muchamad Ridho Hidayat).

This research will describe the concept, supporting factors and inhibiting factors, of a reading corner for all elementary school-age children (7-12 years old) in Carangwulung Village, Wonosalam Sub-district (Pantelic dkk., 2019), Jombang Regency.

### e. Data Collection Technique

The data collection applied as a data collection tool in this research are:

#### 1. Observation

Observation is the basis of all science (Boone, 2019). Everyone can work based on data, namely facts about the world of reality obtained through observation. Data is collected with the help of various highly sophisticated tools, so that objects that are very small or very far away can be observed clearly. (Sugiyono. 2012: 226).

Activities in this study were carried out in the form of observation with the aim of knowing how much enthusiasm students have with the reading corner activities in Carangwulung Village, Wonosalam Sub-district, Jombang Regency.

## 2. Interview

An interview is a meeting of two people to exchange information and ideas through questions and answers, so that meaning can be constructed in a certain topic. (Sugiyono. 2012: 231). In this study (Makarenko dkk., 2022), interviews were conducted with respondents, namely the Koran teacher to find out the implementation of the reading corner and the supporting and inhibiting factors in the process of learning the Koran for elementary school-age children (7-12 years) in Carangwulung Village (Syazali dkk., 2019), Wonosalam Sub-district, Jombang Regency.

## 3. Documentation method

The documentation method is used to obtain data in the form of portfolios, archives, recordings, and visit books. Documents are records of events that have passed (Sugiyono. 2012: 241). In this documentation is used to capture the results of the research to facilitate the process of making reports.

## f. Data Analysis Technique

The data analysis technique uses qualitative analysis techniques. Qualitative data analysis is a research method based on positive philosophy, which is used to research on natural object conditions, where the researcher is the key instrument, from sampling data sources carried out by purposive and snowbaal (Andriyandi dkk., 2020), triangulation collection techniques, inductive and qualitative data analysis, and qualitative research results emphasize more on meaning and generalization. (Sugiyono) Qualitative data analysis techniques use the concepts provided by Miles and Huberman (Muslimin dkk., 2020). Miles and Huberman in Sugiyono (2005: 91), suggest that activities in qualitative data analysis are carried out interactively and take place continuously until completion, so that the data is saturated. Activities in data analysis are data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing / verification.

This research data analysis begins with data collection obtained from observations and interviews (Choudhury dkk., 2019). The data obtained from observations and interviews were then processed by editing, coding, and tabulation stages (Choudhury dkk., 2019). The resulting data can be taken through qualitative methods that produce descriptive data. After the data is processed, the data can be displayed in an organized manner in a relationship pattern (Wani dkk., 2020). Then draw conclusions on the data that has been displayed (Jaoua dkk., 2022). So through this technique it can be seen to what extent students are able to implement reading corner activities for all elementary school-age children (7-12 years) in Carangwulung Village, Wonosalam Sub-district, Jombang Regency.

After the data is analyzed and interpreted, the research results can be concluded. The conclusion of the implementation of the reading corner for all students in elementary school age children (7-12 years old) in Carangwulung Village, Wonosalam Sub-district, Jombang Regency is in accordance with the results in the field.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Reading culture is an important activity in the teaching and learning process, because reading is the ability to absorb knowledge through text or reading (Guerra-Bustamante dkk., 2019). We can find out information from reading activities, and we can add insight and can think critically.

The low level of participation of school-age children in reading activities makes the Abdimas Team of Stikes Pemkab Jombang apply a reading culture, namely by holding reading corner activities that are inaugurated in 5 hamlets in Carangwulung Village, this activity is held in each hamlet which aims to improve reading culture in children, which in this millennial era children and adults prefer to read on devices rather than printed books, so the Abdimas team took the initiative to apply reading corner activities. The reading corner activity has been running well even though it has not been maximized, because there are several obstacles, including the lack of reference books available, so sometimes it is not uncommon for children to have read all the books available in the reading corner. The books that are read are not always about education, they also read various other references that have nothing to do with education, because this reading corner aims to improve the culture of reading in students and add broad insights by reading the book.

With the reading corner, all children are accustomed to being independent and willing to read books without being told by the teacher, although at first the Koran teacher was a little difficult to invite children to read. However, this reading corner has advantages and disadvantages. The advantages of this reading corner are that it can optimize free time to read books, children do not need to go all the way to the school library, without waiting for orders from the teacher to read books when there is free time or when they have finished the Koran, children take the initiative to read books in the reading corner. The reading corner is also The disadvantages are that the school library will be quiet, and the lack of a collection of books in the reading corner.

## CONCLUSION

Reading is an important activity in the teaching and learning process, because reading is the ability to absorb knowledge through text or reading. We can find out information by reading activities, and we can add insight and can think critically. Without reading, we cannot know what is happening in the world, and we cannot know the sciences that exist in the world, therefore reading is important in knowledge and teaching and learning.

The Abdimas Stikes Pemkab Jombang team has a new breakthrough in order to increase interest in reading literacy with the existence of a reading corner. Reading Corner is an activity that children do every free time on the sidelines of studying the Koran at TPQ to read books that have been available in the reading corner shelf. This reading corner also acts as a mini library located in every TPQ in Carangwulung Village in 5 hamlets. This reading corner serves to familiarize elementary school-age children with reading books so that the culture of literacy will be stronger. The books that complete this reading corner consist of general knowledge books, textbooks, storybooks, comics, religious books, novels and short story collections.

This reading corner has advantages and disadvantages. The advantage of this class library is that it can optimize free time to read books, without waiting for orders from the teacher to read books when there is free time or when they have finished reciting the Koran, children take the initiative to read books in the reading corner. In addition to the advantages of the reading corner, it also has disadvantages, namely that the school library will become quiet, the lack of a collection of books in the reading corner. The reading corner activity has been running well and deserves appreciation from the village so that the reading corner can be maximized.

## AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTION

Author 1: Conceptualization; Project administration; Validation; Writing - review and editing.

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