

EFFORTS TO INCREASE CHILDREN'S INTEREST IN LEARNING THROUGH IMAGE MEDIA AT NAPAI SDN WEST WOYLA DISTRICT, WEST ACEH

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Abstract

Education has an important role in the personal formation and intellectual development of children. High interest in learning tends to make students more active, enthusiastic and eager to face the lesson material. On the other hand, low interest in learning can result in boredom, lack of motivation, and even rejection of the teaching and learning process. This research aims to describe efforts to increase children's interest in learning at SDN Napai, West Woyla District, West Aceh Regency, through the use of image media, geographical and social conditions in rural areas are challenges in improving the quality of learning. This research uses a qualitative approach with descriptive research type. Based on the research results, it revealed limited facilities and a lack of variety in learning methods. It is hoped that the implementation of image media at SDN Napai can be an effective solution to stimulate interest in learning. Student reactions to image media were positive, with increased participation and learning outcomes. The role of teachers and parent involvement is very important. Other factors that need to be considered involve the community, developing culturally appropriate materials, and strengthening cooperation. In conclusion, this strategy can have a significant positive impact in increasing children's interest in learning at SDN Napai, in line with the concept of inclusive education and the demands of the

*digital era.***Keywords:** *Children's interest in learning, Image Media*

A. Introduction

Education has an important role in the personal formation and intellectual development of children. One important aspect in education is students' interest in learning, which can influence their success in the learning process. High interest in learning tends to make students more active, enthusiastic and eager to face the lesson material. On the other hand, low interest in learning can result in boredom, lack of motivation, and even rejection of the teaching and learning process. Therefore, concrete efforts need to be made to increase children's interest in learning, one of which is through the use of interesting learning media, such as picture media. SDN Napai, located in West Woyla District, West Aceh Regency, is one of the elementary schools in the area. Like many elementary schools in rural areas, SDN Napai is faced with various challenges in improving the quality of learning, especially in terms of student interest in learning. The decline in students' interest in learning at the elementary school level often occurs due to a lack of variety in the learning methods used. The use of conventional learning methods without creative and innovative approaches can reduce the attractiveness of the teaching and learning process for children (Supriyono, 2018).

In facing the dynamic development of information and communication technology, the use of learning media has become very relevant to attract children's attention and increase their interest in learning. Image media, for example, can be used as an effective means to facilitate the learning process. Children generally have a high visual

appeal, and using pictures can help them understand abstract concepts more easily (Nurgiansah, 2022). Therefore, this research aims to explore and implement efforts to increase children's interest in learning through image media at SDN Napai, West Woyla District, West Aceh Regency. The importance of efforts to increase children's interest in learning at SDN Napai is relevant because it can have a positive impact not only on students' academic achievements, but also on their overall personal development. Cultivating a high interest in learning can be a strong foundation for students' willingness to continue learning and developing themselves, so that they become better prepared to face the challenges of education and life in the future (Adnyana, 2023).

The geographical and social conditions of SDN Napai which are located in rural areas may have their own impact on students' interest in learning. Limited accessibility and availability of educational resources can be a factor that influences the quality of learning at the school. Therefore, increasing children's interest in learning through image media at SDN Napai is expected to be the right and effective solution to improve the quality of learning. Apart from that, government policies in encouraging the use of technology in education, including learning media, need to be implemented optimally. Technology introduction programs in rural schools, such as SDN Napai, can open up new opportunities to create learning methods that are more interesting and relevant to the needs of children in this digital era. By utilizing image media, schools can create a more colorful and stimulative learning environment, which in turn is expected to stimulate children's interest in learning (Safitri, 2020).

This effort is also in line with the concept of inclusive education, which emphasizes diversity and continuity of learning for all students. Increasing children's interest in learning through image media can be the

first step in accommodating diverse learning styles among students(Lakari et al., 2021). By providing various types of learning media, including visual ones such as pictures, schools can create an environment that supports all students, regardless of their different backgrounds, abilities or needs (Mirnawati Mirnawati, 2020). Overall, the implementation of image media as an effort to increase children's interest in learning at SDN Napai is expected to make a positive contribution to student learning and development. This research was initiated by awareness of the importance of providing quality and relevant education to the needs of children in rural areas, where educational challenges and opportunities are often different from urban environments. By exploring the potential of image media as a learning tool, it is hoped that solutions can be found that can increase students' interest in learning and stimulate their desire to continue learning and developing.

B. Method

This research uses a qualitative approach. Nursapiah Harahap (2020:7) said, "Qualitative research is research that originates from an inductive thinking pattern, which is based on objective, participatory observation of a social phenomenon." Based on the opinion above, it can be interpreted thatQualitative research is a research approach rooted in an inductive mindset, where this methodology originates from objective and participatory observations of certain social phenomena.

This type of research is descriptive. According to Muhammad Ramdhan (2021:7), "Descriptive research aims to provide descriptions, explanations and validation of the phenomenon being studied." Based on the opinion above, it can be interpreted that descriptive research aims to

provide detailed descriptions, in-depth explanations, and validation of the phenomena being investigated.

C. Finding and Discussion

1. Result

To determine efforts to increase children's interest in learning through image media at SDN Napai, West Woyla subdistrict, West Aceh district, researchers conducted interviews. Following are the results of the interview:

1. What is the general description of the learning conditions at SDN Napai, especially regarding children's interest in learning?

Answer:

The learning conditions at SDN Napai are currently quite good although there are several challenges. Limited facilities and rural geographic conditions affect learning dynamics, however, efforts have been made to overcome this.

2. What are the obstacles or challenges faced in increasing children's interest in learning at SDN Napai, especially taking into account the geographical and social conditions in rural areas?

Answer:

The main challenges include limited access to learning resources, minimal variety of learning methods, and lack of visual stimuli in learning. Social conditions in rural areas also influence children's interest in learning.

3. Have there been any special efforts or programs that have been carried out previously to increase children's interest in learning at SDN Napai?

Answer:

So far, efforts have been made such as increasing teacher training, introducing various learning methods, and providing motivation to students. However, there is no special program that focuses on the use of image media.

4. What is the level of student acceptance and participation in the use of image media in the learning process at SDN Napai?

Answer:

The level of student acceptance of image media is quite positive. They show increased interest when image media is used in learning. Student participation in discussions and interactive activities has also increased.

5. What is the role and involvement of teachers in implementing image media as an effort to increase children's interest in learning?

Answer:

Teachers have a crucial role in applying image media. They are involved in designing interesting learning materials, motivating students to participate, and presenting information visually to improve student understanding.

6. Have the students' parents been involved in supporting the implementation of image media as a learning tool at home?

Answer:

Most parents have supported the implementation of image media. They participate in presentation sessions at school, encourage children to discuss what they learn at home, and provide support in the home environment.

7. How do parents respond to the school's efforts to increase children's interest in learning through the use of image media?

Answer:

Parental response was generally positive. They appreciate the school's innovation in enriching learning methods and hope that this can have a positive impact on their children's interest in learning.

8. Are there changes or differences that can be observed in students' learning interest after implementing image media in learning?

Answer:

Yes, there have been positive changes in students' interest in learning. They are more enthusiastic, active, and participate more actively in learning activities. Interest in learning is also reflected in increased student learning outcomes.

9. How do students react to changes in learning approaches by including image media? Are they showing increased interest in learning?

Answer:

Student reactions were very positive. They show more interest in the learning material, are more active in asking questions, and

dare to express opinions. This indicates an increase in overall interest in learning.

10. Are there other factors that need to be considered in developing strategies to increase children's interest in learning through image media at SDN Napai?

Answer:

Other factors that need to be considered include community involvement, developing image materials that are appropriate to local culture, and strengthening collaboration between teachers, students, and parents. This will help strengthen the effectiveness of the program and increase children's interest in learning on an ongoing basis.

2. Discussion

Based on the results of the interview, we were able to detail the learning conditions at the school. Even though it is considered quite good, there are several challenges that need to be overcome. Limited facilities and rural geographical conditions are obstacles in providing optimal learning experiences. Efforts have been made to overcome this problem, including improving facilities and adapting learning methods to existing geographical conditions. The main challenge in increasing children's interest in learning at SDN Napai involves a number of factors. Limited access to learning resources, lack of variety of learning methods, and lack of visual stimuli in learning are the main obstacles. Apart from that, social conditions in rural areas also play a role in shaping children's interest in learning. Currently, efforts have been made to increase interest in learning, such as increasing teacher training, introducing various learning

methods, and providing motivation to students. However, there is no special program that focuses on using image media as a learning tool. This shows that there is still potential for more focused program development. Students' acceptance of the use of image media in the learning process is considered positive. Students show increased interest when image media is used, and their participation in discussions and interactive activities also increases. This illustrates that image media can be an effective tool for increasing student involvement in learning.

The teacher's role is very crucial in applying image media as an effort to increase children's interest in learning. Teachers are not only involved in designing visually attractive learning materials, but also in motivating students to actively participate in the learning process. Parents of students are involved in supporting the implementation of image media as a means of learning at home. They participate in presentation sessions at school, encourage children to discuss lessons at home, and provide support in the home environment. Parental involvement is an important factor in the success of implementing image media. Parents' positive response to the school's efforts to increase children's interest in learning through the use of image media reflects support for innovative learning methods. They hoped that this approach would have a positive impact on their children's interest in learning, showing a positive perception of changes in learning approaches. Positive changes in students' interest in learning after implementing image media in learning are very visible. Students are more enthusiastic, active and participate more intensely in learning activities, which is reflected in increased student learning outcomes. This shows that image media can be an effective driver of change in learning.

Students' reactions to the change in learning approach by including image media were very positive. They show more interest in the learning material, are more active in asking questions, and dare to express opinions. This provides a strong indication that the use of image media can motivate students and increase overall interest in learning. Other factors that need to be considered in developing strategies to increase children's interest in learning through image media at SDN Napai involve community involvement, development of image materials that are appropriate to local culture, and strengthening collaboration between teachers, students and parents. This comprehensive involvement is considered the key to the success of the program and increasing children's interest in learning on an ongoing basis. By paying attention to these aspects, it is hoped that the strategy developed can have a greater positive impact in increasing children's interest in learning at SDN Napai

D. Conclusion

Based on the results of the research that has been carried out, researchers can conclude that the learning conditions at SDN Napai, although quite good, face challenges with limited facilities and rural geographical conditions. Efforts have been made, including improving facilities and adapting learning methods. The main challenges involve limited access to resources, lack of variety of methods, and visual stimuli. Although there have been efforts to increase interest in learning, there is no special program for the use of image media. Students' acceptance of positive image media, and the role of teachers is very important in implementing it. Parents are involved in support at home. Students' reactions to image media were very positive, showing increased interest in learning. Other factors that need to be considered include community

involvement, developing culturally appropriate image materials, and strengthening collaboration between teachers, students, and parents. Thus, development strategies can have a greater positive impact in increasing children's interest in learning at SDN Napai.

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