THE IMPORTANCE OF LEARNING MEDIA TO INCREASE THE INTEREST OF ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

Dewi Wulandari, Cici Handayani

Politeknik Unggul Medan Jl.Iskandar Muda No.3 CDEF Medan
dewiwulandari1984@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

School is the second home for students because the students spent most of their time at school. The students should feel comfort when they study at schools. But in fact, it was found that the students had lack enthusiasm during the learning process and were less responsive to the lesson that the teacher explained in the class. It was caused by the learning model which was monotone and conventional. This study aimed to figure out how effective a learning media to increase the interest of elementary school at SD Negeri 010026 Sei Kepayang Kiri. Also, the researcher would suggest the all teachers to use learning media to help them in teaching a subject in the classroom. In this study, the researcher suggested to use laptop as the learning media and audio visual as the method. There was a significant changing for the students' interest and motivation. It was found that the students' interest and motivation increased. The students enjoy the lesson and felt fun when the teachers used audio- visual to teach a teaching material. The students were also enthusiasm of the lesson taught. Also, the teachers could explain the lesson easily by using the media. So, it was concluded that the use of learning media was effective and efficient to increase the interest of the elementary school at SD Negeri 010026 Sei Kepayang Kiri.

Key words: Learning Media, Interest, Elementary Students

INTRODUCTION

The quality of education is the things that always relates to a learning process which occurs in the classroom between the students and the teachers. A teacher has a role to teach and the students have a role to study. Teaching is a way to communicate something to a person or a group people which aims to give them knowledge. (Depdikbud in Suka, 1982: 18). Meanwhile, learning is defined as a process of behavior changing by an interaction between individual and the environment (Hamalik, 1990: 4).

According to Ali (1992: 30), there are some components which connect one to another to achieve the learning goal. The components covers: (1) objective, (2) teaching material, (3) method, (4) learning media, and (5) evaluation. The successful of a learning process is determined by the effectiveness of each component. Media or leaning media is one of the components in the system which has function as the non- verbal communication means. Absolutely, a media should be used in each learning process to gain an effective result. Carpenter and Dale (in Darma 1983:6) stated that a learning process needs a participant and a practice. Basically, a learning process is doing an activity, so the students must participate much in a learning process. Listening, seeing, writing, feeling and thinking are the form of students' participation in a learning process. The presence of a learning media in conveying the teaching material is going to increase the students' interest and motivation in classroom.

This study was conducted at SD Negeri 010026 Sei Kepayang Kiri, Asahan, North Sumatera. It was found that the primary students of SD Negeri 010026 had less interest and the motivation is low as indicated by following indicators: (1)The students did not pay

attention during teaching learning process. They got bored easily, were not enthusiastic and were less interested to every lesson. (2) Some students were passive. (3) The smart students were dominant in joining class activities. (4) Some students also created a joke, made noise and disturbed the others. The problems above were caused by the absence of learning media. The teachers used to teach by traditional method as lecture method. There were no learning media to use in conveying the teaching materials. At the end of the learning process, the students had to do many practices as the resume of each lesson. it was absolutely a bored condition for the students.

Based on the background above, the research problems of this study were: (1) Why is the use of learning media very important in increasing the interest of primary students?; (2) how to design a learning media to achieve an effective and efficient learning result; (3) how to imply a learning media in learning process?

RESEARCH METHOD

This study constituted a descriptive qualitative research. According Bogdan and Taylor (1992:21) stated that qualitative research was research procedure research which resulted descriptive data namely utterance, writing, and behavior of people observed. In this study, the data collecting was gained by interview and observation. The interview aimed to figure out the problems that the students faced during learning process. The observation was conducted during the study. It consisted of the field notes that the researcher did during the study. The field notes described the activities and also the progress of the learning process after using learning media. The study object for this study was the fifth grade students of SD Negeri 010026 Sei Kepayang Kiri. The technique of data analysis was done by three steps namely; (1) Data Collecting, in which the researcher gathered all the data obtained to analyze, (2)Data Reduction, in which the researcher chose the data which are needed to support this study, (3) Data Display, in which the researcher described the study in details. The researcher found out the correlation between the data gained and tried to conclude the study based on the data gained, (4) Conclusion, in which the researcher had concluded the result of the study in details after conducting the data analysis.

RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Psychologically, a learning media is extremely helpful to develop the psychological children because a learning media eased the students to understand the abstract and concrete things. As Rusyan (1993) stated that learning media is used to create an effective and efficient communication. Also, Depdikbud (1992: 79) stated that the use of media in learning process is able to stimulate the students' interest and motivation, to reduce and avoid the verbalism, create a systematically thought, to give a comprehension and to develop the value in the students' personality. In addition, the use of learning media can save the time.

In educational field, a learning media is a tool which used by the teachers to gain the learning goal effectively and efficiently. Before using a learning media, a teacher should know the kind of learning media that will be used for the lesson taught. Also, a teacher is expected to use an appropriate and creative learning media to imply in learning process so that the learning process occurs fun and interesting. To create an effective and creative learning media depends on the teacher's skill. There are some categories to create a learning media that can be used for teaching, namely (1) a learning media should be simple and understandable, (2) the learning media should be planned in accordance with the lesson that a teacher will convey in the class, (3) learning media is not confusing and complicated for

the students, (4) learning media is created by using ordinary things which are easy to find, (5) learning media could be a model, a picture, a structural scheme and so on.

At SD Negeri 010026 Sei Kepayang Kiri, all the teachers did not use learning media in teaching. There were some reasons why the teachers did not use learning media for each lesson namely: (1) the teachers were lazy to create learning media, (2) the use of learning media is considered as a complicated thing to do, (3) the teachers considered that the conventional method is sufficient to imply in learning process. These factors which caused the classroom situation became monotone and bored. For the teachers at SD Negeri 010026 Sei Kepayang Kiri, the researcher suggested the teachers to benefit the tool that the teachers had. Every teacher has a laptop and SD Negeri 010026 has an internet network. So, every teacher could a learning media using their laptop. By using a laptop, a teacher can create an interesting and creative learning media. For language teachers, the researcher suggested audio- visual. For example an English teacher can use audio visual when the teacher teaches pronunciation. The use of audio visual was effective to use. When the English teacher implied the audio visual as learning media, the students looked enthusiasm and fun. It was indicated that the learning media used was effective. Also, when the religion teacher taught the names of prophets by using a song that can be downloaded by Youtube, the students could memorize the names of the prophets easily.

Therefore, the use of learning media was effective. The result of this study could be seen in the following table:

No	Subject	Learning media	Evaluation
1	English/ Indonesian	Audio- Visual (Video)	Effective
2	Islamic Religious Education	Audio- Visual (Islamic Song/ Murottal Qur'an)	Effective
3	Civic Education	Audio- Visual (Power Point with picture)	Effective
4	Natural Sciences	Audio- Visual (Video, Documenter, etc)	Effective
5	Social Sciences	Audio- Visual (Video)	Effective
6	Physical Education	Audio- Visual (Video of Exercise)	Effective
7	Art and Culture	Audio- Visual (Video)	Effective

Based on the table above, it could be seen that the use of learning media, particularly audio-visual model was absolutely effective to imply in learning process at SD Negeri 010026 Sei Kepayang Kiri. The students' interest and motivation were increasing. The lesson that the teachers conveyed in the classroom could be understandable easily by the students. The class became fun and attractive. There was no monotone and conventional method found in the class.

CONCLUSION

Based on the research findings and discussion, it was concluded that:
1. The use of learning media is truly important to increase the interest of primary students because the elementary students tend to think concretely so that it is necessary to explain the lesson by using audio- visual to show them the real things. Also, the use of learning media helped the teachers to explain or convey the lesson easily.
2. Nowadays, it is easy to design a learning media particularly when a teacher knows how to operate the modern device such as a laptop. By having and using a laptop, a teacher

can create an interesting and attractive learning media to teach a lesson in the classroom. For teaching English, an English teacher can download a video from Youtube that can be used as teaching material.

3. The learning media can be implied for every subject taught in the classroom. A teacher should know the appropriate learning media to use in the classroom. A teacher should match the subject and the learning model that can be used in learning process that occurs in the classroom.

REFERENCES

Ahmadi, H.,Abu. 2001. *Psikologi Perkembangan*. Penerbit Rineka Cipta : Jakarta.

Ali, H., Muhamad, 2002. *Guru dalam Proses Belajar-Mengajar*. Penerbit Sinar Baru : Bandung.

Bachtiar, Harsja, W., 2004. *Media dalam Pembelajaran. Penelitian selama 60 tahun* Gene L. Wilkinson. Penerbit CV. Rajawali : Jakarta.

Darma, I Made. 1983. *Alat Peraga dan Komunikasi Pendidikan, Diktat Materi Pelajaran Alat Peraga dan Komunikasi Pendidikan, untuk Siswa SPG negeri Denpasar.*

Djamarah, Syaiful Bakri. 1994. *Prestasi Belajar dan Kompetensi Guru*. Penerbit Usaha Nasional :Surabaya.

Hamalik, Oemar. 2000. *Media Pendidikan*. Penerbit Alumni: Bandung.

Rusyan .A.Tabrani. 2003. Proses Belajar-Mengajar yang Efektif Tingkat Pendidikan Dasar: Bina Budaya : Bandung.

Sugiyono. 2016. Metode Penelitian Kuantitatif,   Kualitatif dan R&D. Bandung: PT Alfabet.

Wisudawati, Asih Widi. 2017. Metodologi Pembelajaran IPA. Jakarta: Bumi Aksara.