



The Influence of Playing with Play-Doh on the Development of Children's Creativity at TK Negeri Satap, Sibargot Village

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Abstract

This study aims to determine the effect of the question-and-answer method on the language development of early childhood at RA Al-Wafi Bulungihit Village. This type of research uses quantitative research (Quasi Experiment) with a research sample using population sampling techniques. The RA class serves as the control class where the researcher conducts the learning process using the conventional learning model (lectures, question and answer, discussions) with teacher-centered learning activities. The RA Group B class serves as the experimental class taught using the question and answer method. The research instrument used observation sheets and documentation conducted by RA group B children. The data analysis technique used was the paired t-test with a significance level of $\alpha=0.05$. The results of the hypothesis test for the Post Test data using the question-and-answer method showed that $t_{\text{observed}} > t_{\text{table}}$ ($3.378 > 1.895$). Thus, H_a is accepted and H_0 is rejected. Therefore, there is an influence of the question-and-answer method on the language development of early childhood at RA Al-Wafi Bulungihit Village.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Golden Age is a term for children who are in the age range from birth to six years old, where this golden age period is very important and irreplaceable once it has passed. This is because this period is the time to prepare all the physical, mental, and intellectual potential that a human being possesses in the best possible way and to appreciate the uniqueness of each individual.

One of the things that can be done to fill this golden opportunity is to involve early childhood education institutions, which are now widely organized in society, with the aim of providing informal education that functions to uncover the child's potential that has not yet emerged, through the development of learning with an emphasis on activities. Early childhood

education is an effort aimed at children from birth to six years old, conducted through the provision of educational stimuli to assist in the growth and development of physical and spiritual aspects so that children are prepared to enter further education. In addition, education plays an important role in determining various aspects of language development. (Indonesian Law No. 20 of 2003)

In developing language, parents are required to speak good words to their children. Early childhood education is one form of educational administration that emphasizes laying the foundation for physical growth and development, intelligence, socio-emotional skills, language, and communication in accordance with the uniqueness and developmental stages experienced by the child.

Language is one of the main aspects of communicating with others. The language used by young children generally begins from birth, with children initially using gestures such as crying. However, as children grow older, they increasingly use the language they acquire from their surroundings. (Jiah Tajiah, Chandra Asri. 2021) Language development for children is the process of understanding and expressing certain conditions, which then evolves into a tool for interacting with others.

For a child, speaking is the key to success and the most important factor in all learning efforts. Every subject matter fundamentally relies on the language conveyed by the educator. The delay in a child's understanding of vocabulary will be followed by a delay in the child's understanding of the subject matter. Success in learning is always related to the child's success in understanding what the teacher says at school.

Teachers must pay attention to the methods used during the teaching and learning process. There are many methods that can be used to assist a teacher in delivering learning materials, such as the lecture method, question and answer method, modeling method, habituation method, play method, storytelling method, singing method, field trip method, demonstration method, problem-solving method, and simulation method.

One of the educational efforts in schools is to train students to always communicate using the question-and-answer method. The application of the question-and-answer method will be able to provide more optimal results in learning and is expected to enhance the child's language development. The question-and-answer method is a technique to motivate students to engage their thinking in asking questions while listening to the teacher's instruction or when the teacher poses questions related to the lesson.

In the use of this question-and-answer method, there is an advantage in that its application can encourage students to conduct further exploration of various learning resources. The question-and-answer method will be more effective in achieving its goals if, before the learning process, students are assigned to read the material that will be discussed. In addition to the use of appropriate methods in the learning process, suitable media that can develop aspects of children's development are also needed.

The fact is, based on the results of observations and interviews at RA Al-Wafi Bulungihit Village, the children still pay less attention when the teacher is explaining in front of the class. Children prefer talking to their friends rather than listening to the teacher's explanation. This is because the teacher does not use varied and engaging teaching methods in the learning process, causing the child to feel bored during lessons. In achieving optimal development, the question-and-answer method is very much needed to enhance children's development, especially language development. In this study, the author focuses on the development of children's language through the question-and-answer method. The question-and-answer method is defined as a teaching approach that creates interaction between the teacher and the students. Interaction is an activity involving two or more people, leading to communication that is closely related to language.

2. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

A. Child Language Development

Language is a mental tool that functions as an actual mechanism for thinking. (Yuliani Nuraini Sujiono, 2013) Through language, children become more imaginative, manipulative, create new ideas, and share those ideas with other children. Since instinctively, children have the potential to communicate with their environment. Here are some factors that influence the development of a child's language: 1) The biological influence on children's language development, Chomsky states that children are born into the world with a language acquisition device (LAD), which means a biological predisposition that makes it easier for children to detect certain language categories such as phonology, syntax, and semantics. 2) The influence of intellect on children's language development, children with high intellect or cognition greatly influence language development. 3) The influence of the environment on children's language development, the environment that plays a significant role in the early development of children's language is the social environment. The first social environment is the family, and the second social environment is the school. In the development of early childhood language, teachers and parents must understand many things because language plays an important role in life. (Soybatul Aslamiah Ritonga, 2021)

The strategies for developing a child's language can be done by frequently encouraging the child to communicate, habituating the child to socialize, using visual media, correcting the child's speech, and providing repetition. In this study on children's language development, the author focuses on the language development of children aged 5-6 years. At the age of 5-6 years, children have already developed correct sentence structures and grammar, both in using prefixes and in using verbs. (Zubaidah Enny, 2004)

Based on the Regulation of the Minister of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia Number 137 of 2014 concerning the scope of children's language development, the author focuses on the scope of children's language development, namely understanding language, expressing language, and literacy with four indicators: answering more complex questions, communicating orally, constructing simple sentences in complete structure, and naming groups of pictures that have the same initial sound/letter.

B. Question and Answer Method

According to Daryanto, the question-and-answer method is a way of presenting lessons in the form of questions that must be answered, primarily from the presenter to the participants, but it can also be from the participants to the presenter. (Daryanto, 2013) Furthermore, according to R. Ibrahim and Nana Syaodih, the question-and-answer method is a teaching method that allows for direct two-way communication because, at the same time, a dialogue occurs between the teacher and the students. (R. Ibrahim and Nana Syaodih, 2010) The purpose of the question-and-answer method is to create a lively atmosphere, explore students' ideas, stimulate students to formulate their own ideas, understand students' comprehension positions on the discussed theme, provide opportunities for students to consolidate their understanding, and encourage them to comment boldly.

3. RESEARCH METHOD

A. Place and Time of Research

The research was conducted at RA Al-Wafi, Bulungihit Village, Marbau District, North Labuhanbatu Regency. The research was conducted from July to September 2023.

B. Population and Sample of the Study

According to Sugiono, a population is a generalization area consisting of objects/subjects that have certain qualities and characteristics determined by the researcher to be studied and then concluded. (Sugiyono, 2011) In other words, the population is the entire set of objects that will be studied. The population in this study is all the children in Group B at RA Al-Wafi, Bulungihit Village, for the 2023/2024 academic year, totaling 30 children. The research sample is an important factor that needs to be considered in the research we conduct. The research sample reflects and determines how far the sample is useful in drawing research conclusions. The technique in the sample is total sampling. According to Arikunto, the determination of sample selection is that if it is less than 100, it is better to take all of them so that the research is a population study. (Sugiyono, 2012) For this reason, the researcher took the entire population to be used as the research sample, which consisted of 30 children.

C. Type of Research

The approach used in this research is experimental research. Experimental research is research conducted by manipulating variables with the aim of understanding the effects of the manipulation on the observed behavior of individuals. This experiment is conducted to determine the effects caused by a treatment deliberately given by the researcher. In this study, the researcher used an intact-Group Comparison experimental design, in which the population is divided into two groups. The first group is the experimental unit for the treatment, and the second group is the control group. Then, the difference between the average measurements of the two groups is sought, and this difference is caused by the treatment.

D. Research Instrument

According to Sugiyono, a Research Instrument is a tool used to measure the observed social phenomena. The instrument of a study needs to be tested before it is used. The purpose is to determine which items of questions or statements used need to be corrected or which do not need to be corrected.

Research instruments are tools capable of accommodating a number of data used to answer research hypothesis questions. The instruments used in this research are in the form of observation and documentation.

4. RESEARCH RESULTS

Based on the research results from the observations made by the researcher with the completion of the observation sheet. Based on the statistical analysis data regarding the pretest and posttest results of the experimental class, the average pretest result of the research in the experimental class is (T calculated) $3.378 > 1.895$ (T table).

The results of this study indicate that there is an influence of the question-and-answer method on the language development of early childhood children at RA Al-Wafi, Bulungihit Village. Based on the hypothesis testing results, it was found that the question-and-answer method provided a significant improvement in outcomes. The use of the question-and-answer method in the experimental group resulted in a better improvement in development scores compared to the control group. Thus, it can be said that the use of the question-and-answer method has a positive effect on the language development of early childhood children at RA Al-Wafi, Bulungihit Village.

5. CONCLUSION

Based on data analysis and discussion of the research results, it was concluded that there is an influence of the question-and-answer method on the language development of early childhood at RA Al-Wafi, Bulungihit Village. Where the calculation results using SPSS by comparing the T value obtained from the T calculation in the experimental class, which is $3.378 > T \text{ table } 1.895$, meaning $T \text{ calculation} > T \text{ table}$. Therefore, H_0 is rejected and H_a is accepted, which means there is an influence of the question-and-answer method on the language development of early childhood.

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