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Eka Rizki Amalia, Hasana

**IMPROVING THE EARLY CHILDHOOD LANGUAGE SKILLS THROUGH
SINGING ACTIVITY****Eka Rizki Amalia*¹, Hasana²**^{1,2} Institut Pesantren KH Abdul Chalime-mail: *¹ekarizkiamalia2104@gmail.com, ²Sazansaminurhasana@gmail.com**Abstract**

During the children's development, they will encounter a stage called the golden age. This stage is the most vital stage in children's improvement since they will develop and grow quickly. This stage is the establishment for creating psychological, motoric, socio-emotional, religious, moral and language capacities. As to improvement of youngsters' language skills, it will be ideal on the off chance that it is led with incitement from the encompassing both from the guardians or family and the teachers. This literature study talks about the significance of directing and fostering the youngsters' language abilities from early childhood and exercises that can bolster the incitement procedure of early children's language skills. The result of the literature review demonstrate that childrens' language skills must be coordinated and supported since early childhood. An individual's language skills demonstrate his insight in communicating certain words and sentences normally and absolutely. For early childhood, the best stimulation is given by singing activities. Singing activities cannot be isolated from social relations, both with the surrounding, society, friends, and family. By singing activities, children will be acquainted with how to regard others, to place themselves in another condition, and train their capacity to communicate.

Keywords: *Improving Language Skills, Singing, Early Childhood*

Background

Early childhood education is the start of the advancement of a human being who possesses the principle stage, which is known as the golden age. Amid this period, practically the majority of youngsters' potential develop and grow quickly. In this time the tyke truly needs incitement from the surrounding. In the event that the youngster gets great and suitable incitement, it will influence all parts of their improvement which will likewise function admirably.

Every individual has his own qualities and uniqueness. The qualities and uniqueness of early childhood is the thing that distinguishes them from youngsters who are more older. Along these lines, their education is esteemed essential. Early childhood education is plainly unique in relation to other education. In early childhood education, the teacher encourages and builds up all parts of a child's advancement. Early childhood has an extraordinary affectability, movement and interest so that around then the entirety of their potential and improvement must be enhanced.

Language is one of the critical perspectives in early childhood advancement. Language as one of the imperative specialized apparatuses in a child's life. Language is helpful for children to most likely interface with one another, share encounters, and have the capacity to improve educated people so as to build up their insight and language skills. For children who are still at an early age, this period must be advanced by being encouraged and grew with the goal that they can augment their language abilities. On the off chance that the direction, course, and taking care of acquired are not proper or not gotten by the children, it is entirely conceivable that there will be an error in the advancement of their language with the desires for guardians at home or by the teacher at school.

Children now and then have numerous and changed thoughts, however they have not possessed the capacity to express them well. This happened on the grounds that their vocabulary and talking capacity were still extremely restricted. This constraint can be brought about by an absence of incitement given by individuals who are in their neighborhood like teachers, guardians and the surrounding. On the off chance that it is not given an upgrade and built up, this lack will affect the improvement of different viewpoints.

Regarding the golden age in early childhood where children experience a time of mental health that is rapid, except for language advancement, it requires appropriate incitement and dealing with. It is normal that early childhood education teachers are

proficient educators in particular with great ability and capabilities and ready to streamline parts of the child's improvement.

Education serves to teach the country's life and improve the quality of human resources. To improve education can be connected by giving information or what is called realizing in the life of an individual that begins early. Learning as information acquired firstly by the child is by understanding what is done or said by his friends as activities and words. So the children will specifically learn through his social condition, to be specific the underlying condition in which a child creates. Children will associate and discuss specifically with their condition so as to comprehend themselves as well as other people through their very own perceptions, dreams, hearing and encounters. One of the devices utilized is through language. Accordingly, it is extremely evident that the most vital perspective in learning a language is through a learning procedure that requires direct help and inclusion from individuals who both straightforwardly and in a roundabout way connect with children, to be specific the guardians and teachers. Art education in children is one of the many efforts to explore the basic abilities and potential of children.

Art education has numerous advantages that can be gotten both specifically and by implication by children. Functions that can be received directly are as a medium of self-expression, communication media, playing media and media to channel the interests and talents of the child (Pekerti, 2008). Through art, the nuance of youngsters will be prepared in light of the fact that art can process children's sensitivity to the environment and things related to beauty (K H Dewantoro in Kamaril W.S., 1998). Singing is an action that can be coordinated into learning in the early childhood education. Melodies and tunes can convey numerous messages to youngsters.

With singing exercises, the learning climate can be all the more energizing, fun, exciting, relieve sadness, and engage youngsters to be increasingly energized. Singing exercises can enhance the capacity of the correct cerebrum which is in charge of putting away messages and information got from the outside in the youngster's long haul memory. Thus, children will always remember the language and the messages they receive in the long term. Children have an innate natural tendency to sing and play because these two activities are fun and play an important role in their development. Learning by singing can improve kinesthetic intelligence, this is evidenced by an increase in coordination in child development, agility and excitement (Widhianawati, 2011).

Language improvement is one part of early childhood advancement. This implies this angle assumes a critical job in the advancement of children and impacts their development and improvement later on. As indicated by Santrock (2007), language is a type of correspondence both oral, composed, and signals dependent on a framework image. Language comprises of words utilized by the community (vocabulary) and standards for changing and joining these words (sentence structure and linguistic structure). While early childhood is the language utilized by children to pass on thoughts, desires, requests, and hopes for themselves.

The chance to get an education begins since the beginning as the golden age until all through life. The world of children and the world of adults are altogether different as far as their qualities. Youngsters will in general be constantly dynamic, dynamic, excited and have incredible interest about objects and events that they see and hear as though they are adapting relentless. Kids likewise have some extraordinary qualities, including egocentric, logical interest, social animals, unique, rich in imagination and dream, have a short concentration of focus and consideration, and are a potential time for learning.

People dependably connect with one another as per their temperament as social creatures. Language is an apparatus for cooperating between people who play an important role since individual are still at his early age. Language can be an apparatus for correspondence as codes or images that are conveyed to pass on messages, data and thoughts orchestrated by specific guidelines and conditions as per the standards in every language. Bromly in Dhieni (2005) characterizes language as an ordinary image framework to exchange different thoughts and data comprising of visual and verbal images. While as indicated by Efendi in Sugiari (2010), language is considered as the absolute best devices and can bring great contemplations and emotions about things that are conceptual.

All kids are brought into the world prepared to learn dialects so they can speak with people around them. In the main long stretches of his life, it has turned into his trademark that in the beginning periods of improvement children master the basics of one language. In spite of the fact that the advancement of this language is an unpredictable assignment that requires a ton of exertion, this procedure is relied upon to run regularly and in like manner.

As expressed in the Minister of National Education Regulation No. 58 of 2009 that children aged 4-<5 years have abilities in the extent of improvement to acknowledge

language, express, and proficiency. In tolerating language, early childhood has possessed the capacity to listen to other individuals' words, comprehend two directions, comprehend stories, and perceive modifier vocabulary. Though as far as communicating language which is identified with talking skills, early childhood has possessed the capacity to rehash basic sentences, express emotions, notice known words, express suppositions, state reasons and retell something he knows or hears. At long last, inside the extent of proficiency improvement, children aged 4-<5 years have possessed the capacity to perceive images, perceive different sounds, make spray painting and imitate letters.

Suharto (2005) makes reference to that speaking can be deciphered as passing on one's intentions (ideas, contemplations, thoughts or substance) to others by utilizing spoken language so those goals can be comprehended by others. While according to Abbas (2006), speaking is the capacity to express hints of explanation or words to express, express and convey thoughts, ideas and feelings. Moreover, according to Hurlock (1978), speaking is a type of language that that uses articulation or words that are used to convey intent. There are a several different ways to sharpen kids' language abilities which are clarified as follows..

1. Implementing singing strategies in improving language skills in early childhood education.

Jamalus (1998) makes reference to that "singing activities are activities where we emit a regular and rhythmic sound accompanied by musical accompaniment or without musical accompaniment". Singing is unique in relation to speaking. Singing requires certain strategies, while speaking does not require extraordinary methods yet rather passing on aims, thoughts or information. For youngsters, singing activities are fun exercises and there is a sure fulfillment that originates from singing. Other than having a capacity to channel ideas and expectations, for example, speaking exercises, singing is likewise a methods for youngsters to express their musings and emotions.

Honig in Masitoh et al (2005) states that singing has numerous advantages for the act of youngsters' education and expansive self-improvement due to several things, including: pleasant, can be used to overcome anxiety, is a medium to express feelings, can help memory, can help build children's confidence, can develop a sense of humor, help develop the skills of thinking and motor skills of children, and can increase closeness in a group.

The singing strategy that is applied has an effect on youngsters' language skills. Tatanurandi (2018) uncovers that the singing technique is a strategy that peruses a word/sentence sung. A portion of the advantages of the singing strategy incorporate

accomplishing capacities in creating thinking power, helping to channel emotions such as happy or sad through the contents of song / song poetry, and helping to add new words of difference through song lyrics / songs (Supriadi, 2003).

The learning process through the singing method has been able to develop students' linguistic aspects in expressing articulation sounds or words that aim to communicate. Conditions like this imply understudies who need talking/relational abilities go about as communicators as uncovered by Rabjane in Setiawati (2014) that sound communicators must have mastery and be confided in communication. Rabjawe further notices the SMILE rule, to be specific communicators must be affable, appealing, amazing, faithful and appreciate it.

2. The role of the teacher in building up the capacity of creative ability to tell narrating skills in early childhood.

Each skill has a close relationship with the thought processes that underlie the language. Language reflects mind. The more skilled someone speaks, the brighter and clearer his way of thinking. Skills can only be obtained and mastered by doing intense practice frequently.

Storytelling is one aspect of language skills that sharpens and develops children's thinking skills. This can mean that language is a person's ability to convey ideas, thoughts or feelings so that the ideas conveyed by people who tell stories can be accepted and understood well by others as listeners or audiences. Speaking means to express ideas or messages verbally which are delivered actively through codes or sound symbols so that communication between the speakers and partners (listeners) is realized. Every individual is born with the ability and skill to speak and communicate verbally, but not all individuals have the skills to speak properly and correctly.

Teachers have many roles, one of which is to be the main motivator in all matters that are directly or indirectly related to students. One of the teacher's roles is to be a designer and guider to the growth and development of children's imagination from the basic imaginative potential they have. Imagination is a mind aid that functions to understand or compile an idea or concept. Thus, imagination has its own strength and thrust to strengthen the appearance of facts in the real world into more interesting images and live like literature in one's mind.

In an effort to develop children's storytelling skills, the teacher can choose various appropriate learning media. Learning media can function to recognize children's learning types. Broadly speaking, media can be human, material or events that build the condition of students in an effort to gain knowledge, skills, and attitudes. In this knowledge, teachers,

textbooks and school environments are media. But specifically, the media in the teaching-learning process tends to be interpreted as graphical, photographic, or electronic devices to reveal, process and reconstruct visual or verbal information more interestingly.

3. Develop language skills through playing groups

Theoretically group games can add to the discourse in the development of language skills and can be the basis for game selection. Group play is very beneficial for teachers in developing learning activities especially in developing language. In addition, this group game is a very fun activity.

4. The use of traditional playing methods in an effort to improve children's language skills

Learning activities with the use of traditional playing methods, children can satisfy the demands and developmental needs of the ability to interact, practice patience, practice courage and also improve children's language skills.

5. Improve the early language skills of early childhood by using pictorial story media

The storytelling method is a method of delivering or presenting learning material that is done orally in the form of narratives or stories from teachers to students. Storytelling is one method to improve early language skills that can develop several aspects of children's development both physically and psychologically in accordance with the stages of development. Story telling functions to help improve and sharpen early language skills and children's thinking and can motivate children to love reading. The use of storytelling methods can train a variety of children's abilities which include the ability to absorb, the power of concentration, thinking power, imagination, and fostering the child's early language skills in communication. Storytelling can be done using a variety of props both directly and indirectly. The use of indirect props such as pictures can help the children's fantasies and imagination because there are supporting props that can be seen directly.

6. Improve children's speaking skills through playing roles

By role playing children can improve their speaking skills. When a child plays a role, at that time the child will convey or say what is in his mind. As expressed by Dhieni (2008), speaking ability is an expression in the form of words. Furthermore, Arsjad and Mukti (1998) states that speaking ability is the ability to pronounce sentences to express, convey thoughts, ideas and feelings.

Hirmaningsih in Nelvalerina (2012) argues that there are two forms of singing activities performed by children, the first is passive singing where children only listen to others singing and enjoy them, without being directly involved in singing activities. The second was active singing, namely children doing direct singing activities, both singing alone, following or in groups.

Children tend to like activities that are fun for themselves. Therefore, the teacher must create a pleasant atmosphere in the learning process for children, especially early childhood with interesting strategies, methods, materials and media and easy for children to follow. Singing is one solution that must be applied by the teacher to deliver material related to the child's development goals. Through singing activities, teachers can more easily communicate with children, and children are easier to understand and interpret the messages conveyed by the teacher.

Development aspects and responses that will be manifested by children through singing activities, some of which are: forming children's expressions and emotions, developing children's life skills, children's language skills, and social relations. Singing activities are fun activities for children that can be used by educators to deliver material. Through singing, children will more easily understand and interpret the messages that the teacher wants to convey. By singing children are also given a place to express what is in themselves, what they feel, whether they are happy or sad. Children are also trained to behave according to the norms of religion, discipline, justice and responsibility towards themselves and others, children are also trained to communicate and socialize with those around them.

Overall, singing activities brings many benefits and positive responses received by children. Good effective development, cognitive and psychomotor. Education has only one goal, namely to build the next generation that can be relied on for the development of this country in the future. The task of parents is to keep directional guidance so that children remain on the right path for their future.

In learning using this method it is shown that students can be aware of moral developments at all times and they also realize that moral development is very influential in their daily lives in the community. A teacher must have a resolution for the learning methods used at school such as the singing method to create a fun and joyful class and the teacher should also work with parents to facilitate the students' learning process so as to improve the



Descriptive study of self-development activities singing to blind children

Children with special needs visually impaired are classified based on their visual abilities, namely blind people with a total blind (blind) classification, very heavy classification (partiallysighted) and mild classification (low vision). The situation of blind students who cannot see makes it an obstacle in capturing learning material both in theory and practice. In achieving the learning objectives of self-development activities singing, the teacher must choose the imitation method where the teacher exemplifies, students do and use the drill method which is done by repeating songs. The teacher can optimize applying the method in the presentation strategies, structural strategies, discussion strategies, and analysis of learning technologies that need to be updated and more creative because they remember the characteristics of special students.

In the process of learning to sing, blind students must be stimulated to learn motivation and must have a good atmosphere in following the learning process. Teachers must have good patience and specific learning methods, strategies as well as creative learning techniques and anticipate these problems and interspersed with singing entertainment songs and children's favorite songs so that the implementation of learning is not tense and is preferred by students. This is closely related to the achievement of a goal for singing self development programs.

Conclusion

Language aspects which are tools for expressing ideas and desires are important aspects to be discussed. Several theories of language acquisition in essence show that each other is interrelated and mutually supportive. Of all the language acquisition theories the most important is the existence of stimulation that can bring out and explore the potential that already exists in the child so that what is already present in the child is explored well and what does not appear can be highlighted so that the child can grow and develop well.

The self-development activities of singing of children become one of the places provided by schools for students to develop and express themselves in channeling their interests, talents, which aim to sharpen their abilities. Psychologically they are also directed to have confidence and courage to speak and move. In the achievement of the learning

objectives of this singing activity, one aspect that needs to be considered is the existence of good cooperation between teachers who teach, and the elements of the school and parents in stimulating students' learning motivation.

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