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# The Effectiveness of Hand Muppet Learning Media Based on Local Wisdom to Improve Cultural Literacy and Citizenship Ability

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Abstract: A nation with high cultural literacy describes the competence of its citizens who can think critically, creatively and communicatively in the face of global competition. The main problem of this research is the low level of cultural literacy and citizenship skills of elementary school students. One of the causes of these problems is the low quality of the learning media used in learning in elementary schools. This study aims to describe the effectiveness of using hand muppet learning media based on local wisdom and the impact of using hand muppet learning media on increasing cultural literacy skills and citizenship of elementary school students. The research model used is a combination method of an exploratory type. The sample of this research is elementary school students in six Kediri elementary schools who have different characteristics. Based on the research results, it was found that the hand muppet was learning media based on local wisdom that was developed and contributed to increasing the ability of cultural literacy and citizenship. This ability improvement occurred throughout the sample schools. Thus, the hand muppet learning media based on local wisdom functions for students with high and low competence.

**Keywords**: hand muppet learning media containing local wisdom, cultural literacy and citizenship

### INTRODUCTION

The demand for mastery of basic literacy (literacy, numeracy literacy, scientific literacy, digital literacy, financial literacy, and cultural literacy and citizenship) is an essential issue for facing life challenges in the 21st century (Weis, 2004). This problem is in line with several essential studies in the field of Education in other countries that have been widely published. A study (Concannon-Gibney & McCarthy, 2012) concluded that students' cultural literacy could be improved by integrating local wisdom in learning. These findings are also in line with the research conducted (Greenleaf et al., 2009), which stated that learning media in the form of hand muppet learning media is needed to improve cultural literacy skills and multiliteracy skills with multi-competence.

The importance and necessity of learning cultural literacy and citizenship in Indonesia are motivated by various findings and the results measuring students' literacy abilities that several world survey institutions have carried out from year to year. The findings of the literacy ability of students in Indonesia are at the lowest position among several countries in ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) even though the results of the Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS) survey (Mullis et al., 2012) participants Indonesian students are in a lower position when compared to other countries. PISA (Program

for International Student Assessment) found the same result: Indonesia ranked low from 2000 to the last measurement in 2012. (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, 2003, 2010; Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, 2007; OECD, 2004; Sari & Valentino, 2017).

Based on the empirical research findings, it is necessary to increase literacy skills as early as possible, starting from the basic education level. Especially at this time, like it or not, Indonesia must immediately prepare for the era of the industrial revolution 5.0 and society 5.0 through the policy of the independent learning program launched by the Minister of Education and Culture (Abidah et al., 2020) with the concept of not only measuring students' abilities as far as the ability to read and write. However, instead of preparing a generation of nations that are superior, competitive and globally competitive (Arifin et al., 2021).

## **METHOD**

The research method used in this study is a mixed-methods research type exploratory (Dasmita, 2011). This research was conducted in the city of Kediri. Determination of the research location is done by lot. Three sub-districts were obtained based on the draw as research locations, namely Mojoroto District, Kota District, and Pesantren District.

The subjects of this study were elementary school students in grade V which were determined by purposive sampling. For the limited experimental class, fifth-grade elementary school students were assigned to one randomly selected school. For the extensive experimental test, fifth-grade elementary school students from 3 schools from the three subdistricts of the sample area were selected. As a comparison, three control schools were also selected. The location of the school is determined purposively by considering the location of the school and the academic ability of the students.

The instruments used to collect research data are

- 1. a semi-structured questionnaire to collect data on needs tracking studies,
- 2. semi-structured interview guidelines to collect teacher response data about the model,
- 3. a test to measure students' literacy skills,
- 4. process assessment in the form of scoring rubrics to measure student activity,
- 5. field notes to collect data from observation activities,
- 6. a guide for assessing the literacy learning process, and
- 7. documentation for collecting data on the research implementation process.

Based on the instrument used, this research will produce two types of data, namely qualitative data and quantitative data. The qualitative data will be analyzed using inductive techniques (Stake, 2010). The quantitative data produced in this study relates to the three hypotheses proposed, namely the ability to read comprehension, reading attitudes, and students' knowledge. These three data will be analyzed using the statistical method of difference test (t) (Creswell & Tashakkori, 2007).

# RESULT AND DISCUSSION

#### Result(S)

Cultural literacy and citizenship is the ability to understand and behave towards the culture it has as a self and national identity so that it can still preserve and develop the nation's culture (Desyandri, 2018; Frans, 2017; Pratiwi & Asyarotin, 2019). This needs to be handled immediately because many problems of the nation's youth today are more inclined to live in the west with the slogan of globalization by shifting the attitude toward nationalism. If this incident continues, the cultural values that are used as glue for the unity and integrity of the nation will fade and reduce the sense of caring for the nation's cultural treasures. The current globalization has shifted the existence of multiculturalism in this nation (Maimun et al., 2020).

One of the rights and obligations of Indonesian citizens, as stated in the 1945 Constitution in article 28, paragraph 3, is to preserve and develop the nation's identity (Yusuf & Putra, 2019). There is a gap between the problem of cultural preservation as a national identity and the rights and responsibilities of Indonesian citizens are low.

Indonesia, with an area of 1,904,569 km<sup>2</sup> and is the 14th largest country which has 17,504 islands and more than 250 ethnic groups (Bertrand, 2004; Riany et al., 2017; Van Der Kroef, 1951). Of course, it has local wisdom that must be maintained and preserved. The issues of cultural literacy and local wisdom are currently considered essential, and many are conducting research. The results of previous studies have an impact on increasing the expected competence. Some of the previous studies are [(Mungmachon, 2012; Pornpimon et al., 2014), which state that local wisdom is a noble wealth that must be preserved, preserved and made into understanding in Thailand (U Toharudin & Kurniawan, 2019; Uus Toharudin & Kurniawan, 2017), integrating local wisdom in improving learning outcomes and Alfi, Asri and Kastam (Laila et al., 2021) learning by integrating local wisdom into learning can improve student competence.

Developmental period and characteristics. Elementary school students are at an age who still like to play, work in groups, move, and like to feel or do something directly, (Dasmita, 2011; Rivai, 2005). Therefore, the models and learning media used at school must be adapted to suit the needs of students. One of the learning media following the growth and development of elementary school students to increase cultural literacy and civic competence is hand puppet media based on local wisdom.

Table 1. The test data are two different means of cultural literacy ability and citizenship Small scale trial 1 by 3

			Pair 1	
			Eksperimen 3 - Eksperimen 1	
Paired Differences	Mean		28.67647	
	Std. Deviation		16.98155	
	Std. Error Mean		4.11863	
	95% Confidence Interval of the Lower		19.94536	
	Difference	Upper	37.40758	
T			6.963	
Df			16	
Sig. (2-tailed)			.000	

#### Discussion(s)

The data in the Table 1 shows that the two-mean data processing of the data from the first and third small-scale experiments obtained at-value of 6.963 with a significance level of 0.000. This is if it is smaller than the proposed level of 0.05. So 0.000 <0.05 means the significance level is smaller than the fundamental level. Thus, it can be said that there is a significant difference between cultural literacy and citizenship skills in the first small-scale trial and the third small-scale trial. These two groups have a mean difference of 28, 68. It can be stated that it was enormous from the first experiment to the third experiment. Significant improvement in cultural literacy and citizenship skills can only occur if the learning process is carried out at least three times.

Hand puppet media based on local wisdom is a learning media used to improve cultural literacy and citizenship skills. The main objective of developing hand puppet learning media based on local wisdom is to encourage students to know, love and preserve their own culture and the existence of students as the nation's successors, always to be aware of their obligations to the Indonesian nation and state.

To test the effectiveness of using learning media in the form of hand puppets, small-scale and large-scale experimental tests were carried out. In small-scale trials, three experimental tests were carried out. Based on the trial using hand puppet learning media based on local wisdom, three types of data were obtained in the form of results: the first and second limited cultural literacy and citizenship skills. While the results of the third data were analyzed to find out the difference in the mean using the t-test in the following table 1.

To test the effectiveness of the statistical test inferential t-test. A large-scale trial was conducted to evaluate the development of hand puppet teaching materials based on local wisdom in a large-scale trial conducted in three elementary schools that have different characteristics. This is done to determine the strength of the product of hand puppet teaching materials with the teaching materials used at the school. The data from the wide-scale trial can be seen in Table 2.

Table 2. The test results of the difference between the two mean cultural literacy abilities and citizenship in the control class and the experimental class

		Value Equal variances assumed Equal variances not assumed		
Levene's Test for F		9.450	_	
Equality of	Sig.	.002		
Variances	_			
t-test for Equality	ofT	6.577	6.552	
Means	Df	199	184.006	
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	
	Mean Difference	10.35911	10.35911	
	Std. Error Difference	1.57506	1.58114	
	95% Confidence Lower	7.25315	7.23963	
	Interval of the Upper	13.46507	13.47860	
	Difference			

The results show a mean difference between the two data groups of 10.36. The data processing results obtained data that there were differences in the two mean cultural literacy abilities and citizenship of students in the experimental class of 6.58 with a significance level of 0.00. If this is compared with the actual significance level (0.05), the significance level is smaller than the fundamental level. This means that it can be concluded that there is a difference between the cultural literacy abilities and citizenship of the control class students and the experimental class students. Thus, hand puppet learning media can effectively improve students' cultural literacy and citizenship skills.

#### CONCLUSSION

The teaching materials produced in this study were hand puppet media based on local wisdom, which was proven to significantly improve elementary school students' cultural literacy and citizenship skills. This ability increase occurred in all sample schools. Thus, the use of hand puppet learning media is effectively used by students who have high abilities. However, students who have low abilities can also increase their abilities. Thus, the learning media for hand puppets based on local wisdom is needed to improve cultural literacy and citizenship skills for elementary school students in Indonesia.

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