

Developing Students' Reading Ability Through a Class 4 Digital Library Prototype of SD 90 Sipatana Indonesia

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Abstract: This research aims to find out Can digital libraries develop students' reading skills? This research was deliberately conducted to be able to test whether the theory found was in accordance with the reality in the field. This research using the observation approach method. The results showed that there was progress in reading ability in grade 4 students at SDN 90 Sipatana. This means that the digital library is one of the things that really helps students to develop reading skills.

Keywords: Digital Libraries, Students, Reading

Introduction

Currently, the world of education is increasingly experiencing changes that lead to more rapid progress than before. This is driven by developments in information technology. Because with the development of information technology, of course it will have a big influence on the world of education. As according to Habibillah, et al., (2022) that the development of information technology is not only felt by the fields of government, business, and transportation, but the education sector is also experiencing very significant changes, such as in the teaching and learning process. One that is evidence of the development of information technology is the presence of digital libraries. That way, it will be easier for teachers and students to get important information related to learning through this digital library. According to Firdausi & Trihantoyo (2021) that the library is one of the service providers and information literacy which is very important for the development of education which is required to be able to change something, especially in changes that lead to goodness, innovation, creativity, and benefit the whole community. Temporary, according to Rosanti, et al., (2022) digital libraries are one of the innovations in the field of infrastructure to provide fast and quality information effectively and efficiently in an effort to achieve the teaching and learning process.

Along with the development of information technology, it is necessary to supervise students so that they can take advantage of the development of information technology in positive ways. Because seeing the current facts, many students are even interested in using information technology for things that are less useful. As according to Husnawati, et al., (2022) that the development of the times has made children much more interested in watching television or playing games instead of sitting reading. If this continues to happen, students' interest in reading will continue to decline. Therefore, a teacher should be able to introduce digital libraries to his students. So that students will be interested in reading, because it cannot be denied that nowadays they often hold smartphones. So when the digital library can be accessed via the students' smartphones, it is hoped that they will spend more time reading. According to Aisyah (2022) that reading activities can be trained starting from the kindergarten level, elementary to high school students have been trained to read and be information literate. If reading activities carried out by students continue to be developed, school resources will increasingly experience an

increase. because students are one of the school resources. As stated by Rahmat & Husain (2021) that school resources include people, funds, facilities and infrastructure.

From the explanation above, the authors conducted research in elementary schools to examine more deeply about digital library prototypes that can develop students' reading skills. Based on data in the field obtained through observation and interviews in class IV (Four) of SD Negeri 90 Sipatana it was found that there were still quite a number of students who were not interested in reading books, namely out of a total of 28 students, namely 14 boys and 14 girls . The reasons they put forward were that they were more interested in reading Wattpad, they felt bored if they had to open a book sheet by sheet while reading, there was laziness if they had to borrow books from the school library and some even reasoned that they were more interested in online games so they had no interest. or a high interest in reading books. Even though on the other hand, reading books is a very important thing because by reading books, you will know many things. According to Febrilio & Koeswanti (2022) the habit of reading will provide many benefits and develop the mindset of the students themselves. Meanwhile, according to Elendiana (2020) that reading also gains new knowledge and knowledge and benefits from what has been understood by the contents of the writing and the words contained in the reading. This shows that the problem for students in grade IV (Four) at SD Negeri 90 is the lack of interest in reading books, because it is influenced by several things. Based on these facts, the formulation of the problem in this study is "How to design a digital library at SD Negeri 90 Sipatana so that it can develop students' interest in reading?" .

The purpose of this research is to make it easier for students to be able to access sources of information in the form of reading materials related to learning, to help students to be able to use information technology in positive ways, and to help develop students' reading skills. Besides that, the benefits of this research are introducing digital libraries to students and helping the student learning process become easier. As for some of the previous studies that became a reference in this study are:

- 1) Bua (2021) in his research found that early reading by applying digital libraries could improve the reading skills of class IB students at SDN 007 Tarakan as evidenced by an increase in the results of initial reading skills in cycle I and cycle II.
- 2) Fadillah, Dini (2021) in his research shows that the Digital Storytelling method can be a new strategy in increasing students' interest in reading.
- 3) Fitriyanti (2021) in her research explained that after digital literacy activities were carried out through guidance and counseling action research (PTBK), there was an increase in the percentage of reading interest in class IX D for the 2020/2021 academic year.
- 4) Salsabila, Kurnia & Hasanudin (2022) in their research explained that the iPusnas application is a digital library application where in the application there are many collections of books and various interesting features that students can use to improve literacy skills.

Method

The research method used in this study is to use an observation approach. According to Tanjung, et al., (2022) observation is a direct, systematic observation of the symptoms to be studied. With this method, researchers can see and feel directly the atmosphere and research subjects. The things observed in this study are about digital libraries. As for this research used data collection techniques in the form of observation and interviews. According to Tanjung, et al., (2022) determining the right data collection technique greatly determines the scientific truth of a study. According to Ester, et al., (2022) that data collection techniques are the most strategic step in research, because the main goal of research is to obtain data.

Results And Discussion

Results

In this study, observations were used to explore data in the field. This method is used to directly observe the process that takes place in class IV (Four) SDN 90 Sipatana. Monday 03 October 2022 was the first time the observation was carried out, where researchers observed the state of students in class. After being observed, it was found that the implementation of learning in class used printed books, both teacher's books and student books. But in the implementation of this learning the books used by students are not in accordance with the number of students in the class. So that when studying they have to share using books, meaning that one book is used by 2 students at the same time and there are even up to 3 people using 1 book. After making observations, then followed by interviews with students in grade IV (Four), it was found that there were most of the students who did not like reading books. This is due to several reasons that make them unhappy and lazy to read books. One of them is that they feel bored when reading books provided in the school library.

The second observation was carried out on Monday, October 10 2022. In this second observation, the researcher began to introduce digital libraries to participants educate. The researcher first explained about the digital library, after all students understood it, they continued with experiments using digital libraries as shown in Figure 2 which is in the attachment. In this case the students were given direct directions and accompanied by the research team. Furthermore, the researcher asked for responses from all students related to this activity. And as a result, almost all students enjoy reading books through digital libraries. Because this digital library is something new for them and they are also happy because they can access the digital library even though they are outside the school.

The third observation was carried out on Monday, October 17 2022. This observation was made to review how the progress of the use of this digital library is. It turned out that students had started using this digital library when they were at home. They have started reading books in the digital library. They have a new enthusiasm for reading books, they said this to the research team.

Discussion

Digital libraries are a form of technology implementation in libraries (Kusumaningtiyas & Nurazizah, 2022). A digital library is also defined as a library that stores collections and digital formats (as opposed to print media, micro formats and other media) and can be accessed using a computer (Tjijptasari, 2022). Besides that, Ervianto (2022) explains that digital libraries are libraries that use information technology assistance in the form of website-based applications, android/ios which are used as storage areas for collections in the form of text, images, audio, and video that can be accessed anywhere, anytime. only by using a computer or mobile device.

Digital libraries are closely related to current technological and information advances. As explained by Senjaya & Susinta (2022) that in building an information society the role of digital libraries is one of the main actors in realizing progress in information and technology. In addition, they also explained in detail regarding the role of digital libraries, namely the existence of digital libraries providing solutions to users and offering convenience for users to access electronic information sources with fun tools at limited times and opportunities. Users are no longer physically bound to library service hours where users have to visit the library to get information. Therefore digital libraries facilitate and solve the problem of access needs. As for what was raised by Prasetyawan, et al., (2022) that the use of digital libraries in children can optimize aspects of children's language through reading activities.

The ability of students in this country will determine the progress of the nation in the future. The ability of students can be seen from the learning achievements obtained. According to Rahmat, et al., (2015) it is hoped that each student will obtain optimal learning achievement, meaning that learning outcomes are in accordance with their respective talents, interests and abilities. Smart students are one of the factors that will be able to make this country move forward in a better direction. However, intelligent students do not just happen, but through a process, one

of which will make someone smart is reading diligently. According to Alpian & Yatri (2022) reading is a linguistic skill related to other language skills. Besides that, according to Poko & Budzer, reading is the process of converting symbols into sound when combined with several words. Words are arranged in such a way that they can be seen and reached (Dony, et al., 2022). When students have experienced a decrease in their desire to read, these students will experience difficulties in the learning process. As explained by Irfani, et al., (2022) that low interest in reading among students causes difficulties for children to participate in learning due to lack of knowledge, whereas knowledge is obtained from reading a book. So we need a solution to be able to develop students' ability to read. Many efforts can be made to develop reading skills in students, one of which is by taking advantage of technological advances, namely presenting digital libraries for students. According to Fadlurrohaman, et al., (2022) that as an alternative in increasing students' interest in reading, namely by utilizing existing technology, namely digital libraries (digital libraries). We cannot deny that in this digital era, students are more interested in things related to digital. When they can access reading resources through the devices they have, they will be even more interested in reading because they can access them more easily. The interest of students in reading will certainly have a big influence and will bring benefits to themselves and others. Reading has an important role in creating an intelligent, creative and critical generation. By reading a person is able to gain knowledge and information (Ismail & Armadani, 2021). According to Syafitri & Yamin (2022) that students who like to read are more likely to work hard to improve their reading skills at school. Then according to Suleman, et al., (2021) the reading ability obtained by students in class I and class II will become the basis for learning to read in the next class.

According to Mubarok (2021) in his article, it is revealed that digital libraries are a vehicle for improving the quality of learning, learning experience, spearheading increased student literacy, as well as more motivation to make them a learning resource. According to Irawan, et al., (2022) that the function and role of digital libraries is very important and central in providing appropriate sources of information and teaching methods needed by both teachers and students.

Conclusion

Digital library is one form of technology implementation in the library. Digital libraries come with all the benefits that help make it easier for students to access information sources and reading sources. The existence of digital libraries provides solutions to users and offers convenience for users to access electronic information sources with fun tools at limited times and opportunities. Users are no longer physically bound to library service hours where users have to visit the library to get information. One of the efforts that can be made to develop students' reading skills is to take advantage of technological advances, namely by presenting digital libraries for students.

The results of observations and interviews show that students at SDN 90 Sipatana have a greater enthusiasm for learning to use digital libraries. They are also very enthusiastic about accessing digital libraries. So from this, students will be able to develop reading skills.

Suggestion

To further develop students' reading skills, it is necessary to take advantage of technological advances. Schools must provide an introduction to digital libraries to their students. So that students can take advantage of technological advances for more positive things.

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