

STORYTELLING METHOD FOR DEVELOPING MORAL VALUES IN EARLY CHILDREN

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Abstract. The storytelling method is a fun way to convey moral messages, good storytelling can build emotional bonds and can create a comfortable and warm atmosphere so that it makes children's moods happy, the emotions that children feel through stories make it easier for children to remember and understand the message moral in the story. The storytelling method is a way of conveying a message by someone, information or just a fairy tale, which can be done orally or in writing. So the aim of this research is to understand in depth how the storytelling method can be used as a method to instill and develop moral values in early childhood. , and can introduce awareness of moral values to children. This research uses a descriptive method, with the approach used is a library research approach. The results of the research show that using the story method by paying attention to and clarifying supporting factors in developing children's moral values in storytelling activities can have a positive impact on the moral development of young children.

Keywords: storytelling methods, Moral Values, Early Childhood

INTRODUCTION

In modern times, there are many incidents of damage to human morality which result in social deviation. The moral problems that occur are quite complex, such as many cases of bullying that have claimed many victims. Moral damage to students can be caused by a lack of moral education in the family environment and school environment. This is a big task in the scope of education to instill morality in the personality of each student.

Starting from these conditions, it is necessary to create a learning concept which could be a way out of students' morality problems. A learning concept that is able to bridge and instill moral values is shown for early childhood. In the world of early childhood education, especially in today's modern era, morals are an important thing to instill in children from an early age considering that there is a large decline in morality. One method of developing good moral values is using the storytelling method.

The storytelling method is a fun way to convey a moral message. Good storytelling is able to build emotional bonds and can create a comfortable and warm atmosphere so that the child's mood is cheerful. The emotions that children feel through stories make it easier for children to remember and understand the moral messages in the story. The storytelling method has advantages, including communicating cultural values, communicating social values, communicating religious values, helping develop children's fantasies, helping develop children's cognition and helping develop children's language.

According to Piaget in the child development book by Elisabeth Hurlock, moral development occurs in two stages, the first stage is the Moral Realism stage where The child's behavior is determined by automatic obedience to rules without reasoning or judgment. Here children perceive the authoritative parents as omnipotent and follow the rules given to them. The second stage according to Piaget is the stage of autonomous morality, where children evaluate behavior on the basis of its underlying goals.

According to Kohlberg (Safitri et al., 2019), children's religious moral development does not focus on moral behavior, meaning that what an individual does is not the center of his observation. He made moral reasoning the center of his study. He said that observing behavior does not show much about moral maturity.

Children are the next generation of the nation, therefore they must receive quality education so that they can develop their potential and grow into people with strong personalities and have various abilities and skills and must know morality from an early age (Salasiah, 2021). In the early childhood education unit, it is an appropriate effort in moral development aimed at children, to help physical and spiritual growth and development so that children are prepared to face life in wider society.

Therefore, it is very important to introduce and instill moral values from an early age considering the many negative phenomena that we often see, either through direct events or from social media spread, cases in early childhood such as speaking impolitely, imitating scenes of violence, even imitating adult behavior that children should not do. Because the introduction of instilling moral values can shape children's personal character, fortify negative behavior, foster children's sense of empathy, and can teach them about noble values.

Sourced from previous journal research entitled "Methods for Instilling Religious and Moral Values in Early Childhood" this research aims to find out what activities to instill moral and religious values at Kindergarten Goemerlang Bandar Lampung, this research reveals that the instillation of moral and religious values has been planned and carried out well. There are several methods developed at Kindergarten Goemerlang Bandar Lampung to instill moral and religious values, namely the storytelling method, field trip method, demonstration method, assignment method, habituation method, and conversation method.

Based on previous research, it is revealed that there are various ways to instill moral and religious values, one of which is the storytelling method. This research will explore storytelling methods to develop moral values, and this research can be used as an additional reference for related research. Apart from being able to develop moral values, storytelling can develop children's language, but this research will focus on instilling children's moral values.

It is hoped that the results of this research can provide scientific contributions and useful recommendations for early childhood education practitioners in utilizing the storytelling method to develop children's moral values as one of the methods of choice in developing the moral values of early childhood. The author also wants to know to what extent the use of storytelling methods can develop moral values in young children

The aim of this research is to understand in depth how the storytelling method can be used as a method to instill and develop moral values in young children, as well as to introduce awareness of moral values in children.

RESEARCH METHOD

In this research, the Storytelling Method for Developing Moral Values in Early Childhood uses a descriptive method, with the approach used being a library research approach. The data collection technique used by researchers is the literature review method. This research collects readings that focus on the story method to develop moral values. Literature review research is research that aims to obtain secondary data which will be used as a theoretical basis related to the theme studied by the researcher and relevant to the problem being researched with the aim of supporting the data obtained during the research by studying books and literature. and others (Azwardi: 2018,).

Library research has advantages and disadvantages, this method is not a positional writing, in the sense that the researcher only selects data that supports his views (Efron & Ravid, 2019), but it also does not mean presenting all the data in the field extensively.

1. Result and analysis

1.1. Storytelling method

Apart from being able to increase the wealth of insight (language intelligence), presenting good storytelling techniques can foster imagination and encourage students' creativity in conveying the message or information conveyed. Apart from that, through stories, when children listen and follow the plot of the story, at that time the child's emotions, fantasies and imagination become active. The storytelling method also encourages children to recognize the moral message contained in the story. Method means way. A method is a way of carrying out activities using facts or concepts systematically. The definition of method is a way of presenting material/organizing teaching and learning activities.

Henry (Kusnilawati et al., 2018) states that telling a story can be interpreted as telling something, for example the occurrence of something, an action, a real or fictional event or a play that is manifested in a picture. Storytelling is an activity carried out by someone to convey a message, information or just a fairy tale, which can be done orally or in writing.

The storytelling method is a way of instilling values in children by using the personalities of characters through telling stories, legends, fairy tales and local history. This method can be used to help appreciate values and morals and form attitudes (Kusnilawati et al., 2018). By using local historical figures, it is hoped that children will be able to get to know regional figures

It can be interpreted that the storytelling method is a way of conveying a message by someone, information or just a fairy tale, which can be done orally or in writing.

1.2. Moral values

In everyday life, moral values have an important role as a foundation for building relationships between individual children. Moral values represent principles or standards of correct behavior according to individuals and society. These values become guidelines for speaking or acting according to applicable norms.

The terms moral and immoral are used so freely that their true meaning is often overlooked. Therefore, we must know and understand the meaning of the word moral. Moral behavior means behavior that is in accordance with the moral code of a social group. "moral" comes from the Latin word "mores" which can be interpreted as procedures, habits and customs. Moral behavior is controlled by moral concepts that have become customary for members of a culture and which determine the behavioral patterns expected from all members of the group.

From the explanation above, the author can conclude that the cultivation of moral values is a learning process in the form of activities or efforts carried out consciously, planned and accountable to maintain, train, guide, direct and improve knowledge, social skills and social practices in children with other children or adults. The practice of being civilized and moral can be practiced in everyday life in order to introduce morality to young children.

1.3. Early childhood

Early childhood is a child aged 0 to 6 years who goes through infancy, then toddlerhood and pre-school, each period has different characteristics. During each period of development, the child will progress normally if the child does not experience abnormalities (Wiyani: 2018).

So early childhood is a child aged 0 to 6 years who has a period of growth and development or the golden age period who must be accompanied so that the child's growth and development process runs well according to the child's stage.

1.4. Storytelling Method to Develop Children's Moral Values

The results of this research were obtained through a literature review study by analyzing several reading sources to see several factors that must be considered and emphasized more in using the storytelling method to develop children's moral values.

The storytelling method develops moral values in early childhood, there are communication strategy factors that can be used to motivate children's cognitive abilities. By developing cognitive aspects in children, it will hone literacy thinking skills in early childhood. The following are several communication strategy factors that can be suggested:

1. Use language that is appropriate to the child's development: Teachers or parents need to use language that is easily understood by children according to their stage of cognitive development. Using short and simple sentences, and avoiding using vocabulary that is too complicated, will help children to better understand the story and the moral message conveyed.
2. Asking open-ended questions: Teachers or parents can ask children open-ended questions to stimulate their cognitive abilities. Questions like "What do you think about this story?" or "How can you apply the values in this story to your everyday life?" can motivate children to think critically and express their opinions.
3. Provide opportunities for discussion: After the story is finished, it is important to provide opportunities for children to discuss the story. This discussion may involve inviting questions them to think more deeply about the moral message of the story and how they can apply it to their daily lives. This will encourage the development of their cognitive abilities, such as analytical thinking, problem solving, and making judgments.
4. Encourages creative thinking: Apart from communicating verbally, using finger puppets can also encourage children to think creatively. They can develop finger puppet characters, create dialogue, and tell their own stories. This will stimulate children's cognitive abilities, such as imagination, creativity and problem solving.
5. Provide positive reinforcement: During storytelling activities, it is important to provide positive reinforcement to children when they participate and provide their ideas. This will motivate them to continue contributing and improving their cognitive abilities. Positive reinforcement can take the form of praise, recognition, or rewards that are appropriate to the child's age and development

By paying attention to the factors above, this storytelling strategy to develop moral values will help teachers and parents in presenting stories to children and can be an effective means of instilling moral values in everyday life. In terms of language, children can add vocabulary that shows polite attitudes. In each open-ended question interaction, children will be more active and can ask what they can do and what they can't. Of course, children's cognitive abilities work so they can grasp the moral message conveyed. Overall, the factors above are effective in instilling moral values in children because they combine cognitive aspects, language aspects, artistic aspects (creative thinking), as well as social and emotional aspects of children.

The storytelling method is not only a teaching tool, but also a valuable moment to strengthen the emotional relationship between educators and children. With interesting and relevant stories, children can learn moral values in a fun and in-depth way. Storytelling usually depicts good and bad characters, as well as the struggle against evil, bringing children closer to the problems in the reality of life. The moral values in the story help them to overcome a problem realistically. Stories obtained from the daily experiences of parents and caregivers as well as stories taken from local wisdom and wayang culture will improve and broaden children's cultural literacy insight.

Steps for Implementing the Storytelling Method: things that must be paid attention to when telling a story, emphasize simple words. You can also use puppets, pictures and interesting voice intonation to maximize children's attention. The relevance of stories to children's lives is expected to be close to children's everyday experiences, such as stories about family or peers, which are easier to understand and internalize. The use of the media used can attract children's attention and the use of media such as dolls, picture books, or visual props makes the story further increase the child's absorption of the moral messages contained in the story. Actively involving children in telling stories, for example through question and answer or role playing, increases children's understanding of the moral values in stories.

As for the challenges in using the story method, this needs to be taken into account so that the moral message can be conveyed to children. Firstly, the duration of the story is too long or the theme is not interesting enough to make the child lose attention. Tips for choosing stories that are appropriate to the child's age, secondly: Limitations of teachers/parents in telling stories creatively. The storytelling method increases moral understanding. Children show a better understanding of the concepts of honesty, kindness and responsibility after hearing relevant stories. Changes in children's behavior can be achieved. showing good impacts such as sharing more often or apologizing after making mistakes. With this method of increasing moral understanding, children better understand moral concepts such as sharing, forgiving, or being responsible after hearing relevant stories. For example, fables are often used to teach honesty or hard work.

Influence on children's behavior also influences children's behavior

namely being able to change children's behavior in real situations. For example, children are more likely to help friends after hearing stories that contain messages about the importance of helping each other. Can develop Empathy and Socialization:

Stories that involve emotional conflicts or other people's feelings, such as sadness or happiness, help children develop empathy. This supports better social interaction.

There are several examples of stories and moral values that have been developed by teachers and can be conveyed to children of course in an interesting way, examples of these stories include:

Story Title	Moral Values
Kancil and Crocodile	Think smart and avoid conflict
Elephants and Ants	Don't underestimate other people, every individual has advantages
Life Story of a child	who shares toys with his friends. Sharing and empathy

The process of moral development in children has an intelligent aspect and an impulsive aspect. Children must learn what is right and what is wrong, once they are old enough children must be given an explanation as to why this is right and what is wrong. To shape the development process in the future children must be given the opportunity to take part in group activities so that they can learn about group expectations. , then they must develop the desire to do the right thing, behave with a good impact and avoid mistakes. By introducing moral attitudes and values to children through the storytelling method, it will increase the moral concept for children.

The results of the analysis carried out by researchers who have examined several reading sources related to the storytelling method for developing Moral Values in early childhood indicate that the storytelling method is clearly capable of developing moral values by paying attention to several factors that have been explained above in depth.

CONCLUSION

The research results show that the storytelling method is proven to develop moral values in young children. By focusing on the things detailed above, storytelling is able to provide a fun, relevant and in-depth learning experience, making it an approach to moral education that suits children's developmental needs, and can be an initial introduction to the concept of moral values. The storytelling method is effective in developing moral values because it is able to combine emotional appeal, helps to recognize the moral context, and can develop several aspects of children's growth and development. By applying the factors above.

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