

THE DEVELOPMENT OF LEARNING MEDIA BASED ON LOCAL WISDOM FOR SOCIAL STUDIES EDUCATION

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Abstract

To preserve the cultural existence, it is crucial to instill a sense of love towards local culture. In the education context, one of the ways to realize this belonging is through integration of local wisdom values in the learning process. The local wisdom-based education can function as media to preserve the cultural potential of each region. One of this potential development is using *Wayang Golek* or traditional puppet from West Java as a learning media in social studies education. The cultural show has been currently seemed to be abandoned. The traditional puppet is made of three-dimensional wooden dolls. The development of learning media based on local wisdom by using puppet aims to make the learning process interesting, not monotonous or boring, and to motivate students to learn social studies better. Local wisdom-based learning media as part of contextual learning provided students with hands-on experience. It created more meaningful learning and facilitated the character building, such as loving Indonesian culture.

Keywords: Media learning, *Wayang Golek*, Social studies learning, local wisdom

INTRODUCTION

Local wisdom-based education can function as media to preserve the potential of each region. Local wisdom must be developed from the potential of the region. The regional potential is specific

resources possessed by a particular region. One of the cultural potentials is *Wayang Golek*, which is currently abandoned by the nation. It is made of three-dimensional wooden dolls and it is famous in Sundanese areas particularly in Jelekong village, West Java. Puppet is one of the prominent Indonesian cultures among other cultural works. Puppet culture covers acting: sound, music, speech, literary, painting, sculpture, and symbolism arts. Puppet culture continues developing from time to time playing its role as information media, propaganda, education, entertainment, philosophical understanding, and entertainment. Puppet is an original performance art from Indonesia that always spread values, norms, traditions, and culture inherent in the lives of local people. Each story presented in the show represents symbols that have essential roles in building the life of the society in this nation.

The current education system refers to the western's education system. Whereas local wisdom has the potential to function as education media. The development of science and technology will bring a crisis of national identity if one cannot maintain the local culture. Aje (2008) states that in terms of ideology, the future of politics, economics, sociocultural require good anticipation of the globalization era to deal with threats, challenges, issues regarding the acculturation process of *Pancasila* values. *Wayang Golek* is one of the Indonesian cultures that has been abandoned by the nation. Puppets have a variety of functions including information media, educational media, and entertainment media (Gunarjo, 2011). Furthermore, puppets can be used as learning media for social studies. In this case, it helps to convey information in a more interesting way.

In the current education system, teachers are not only required to be able to set strategies but also to be creative and innovative. Therefore, students do not feel bored during the lesson. The success of the learning process is affected by many factors, including how the teacher delivers the materials to students. The delivery of materials is categorized as a form of communication. Thus, if the teacher delivers the materials in an interesting way, even passive students will be motivated to actively participate in the study.

The use of puppets as learning media for social studies is an interesting innovation for students. It contributes to maintaining the traditional culture, especially Sundanese culture. Puppet has several

functions and one of them is as educational media medium as it provides noble values. Puppet also functions as information media because it can be used to convey information. Interesting media motivate students in learning. Interest is the tendency to do something driven by attitudes. Teachers have to be able to provide new innovation to attract students' interests. Hence, the learning process runs in accordance with the expected goals. Interest helps students to concentrate more on a lesson. Thus, without interest, it will not be easy to make the students focus on the lesson. The use of puppets as learning media is to convey materials in the form of narrative and the students are expected to pay attention to the delivered material. Susiani (2015) states the use of cardboard puppet media helps students in maximizing their focus during the performance. Thus, it can be concluded that the use of *Wayang* as learning media is expected to build a sense of love of Indonesian culture, particularly Sundanese culture.

METHOD

This study was a literature study by reviewing journals related to the development of local wisdom-based learning. Fajri Nur states that puppets can function as media to develop the children's character. This research explained the role of puppets as creative and innovative learning media. The use of innovative media can increase students' interest and motivation in learning. Even, it has psychological effects on students. Nadlir (2014) in *The Urgency of Local Wisdom-Based Learning* explains that local wisdom based-learning consists of some sources and they do not interfere with each of learning material.

In line with statement above, Reffiene (2016) in *The Implementation Development of Cardboard Puppet Media for Daily Activity Themes*, explains that boredom in learning decreases the students' learning achievement. As a facilitator, teachers need media to increase the students' interest in participating in the lesson. One of them is cardboard puppets. The use of media is to make the learning process becomes more effective, innovative, creative, and imaginative.

Rohidi Rohendi T. (2014) in *Development of Learning Media Based on Local Wisdom for Art and Culture Studies (Puppets as a Source of Ideas)*, also explains how puppets in various community groups can function as a source of learning particularly in primary schools. Some schools have used puppets as one of learning media

based on local wisdom. Teachers often use puppets as learning media as it has varied forms and can be set for certain learning target. As it has various forms and adaptable to varied learning targets, puppets are often used by teachers as learning media up to present. Local wisdom-based learning that can be developed into media for social studies. The result of these literature reviews was used to identify the implementation of puppet culture in social studies in schools and social studies subjects serve as a place to help students in preserving puppet.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Social Studies Learning

a) Definition of Social Studies

Social studies are one of the subjects in primary school and junior high schools. Social science investigates and analyses various facts, concepts, and social generalizations that exist in society. In addition, Social studies also identify human relations and behavior in social life related to social issues. Various traditions in the social studies including concepts, theories, facts, structures, methods, and insertion of values has to be packaged pedagogically, interactively, and communicatively (Somantri, 2001). Further, it has to be relevant to the situations and conditions in society. NCSS defines the term of social studies as:

"The term social studies cover history, economics, anthropology, sociology, civil, geography, and all modifications of subjects whose content as well as aim is social. In all content definitions, the social studies are conceived as the subject matter of the academic discourse, somehow simplified, adapted, modified, or selected for school instruction".

b) Development of IPS Learning Media

Learning media are tools to convey learning messages. Buvee in Hujair (2011:23) defines media as a tool to convey messages. Meanwhile, Gagne in the Karti Suharto (2003: 98) states that media are various types of components or sources of learning that can stimulate students to learn. Based on these definitions, it can be said that learning media are educational tools that function as an intermediary in the learning process.

Potential of Local Wisdom-based Learning Media

Regarding the definition culture, typically it consists of three important aspects namely: (1) culture is transferred from one generation to another, meaning that culture is seen as a social heritage or tradition, (2) culture is learned, meaning that it is not something genetic, and (3) culture is perceived and possessed by a group of people. Based on these definitions, it implies that the process of cultural transfer always occurs through the educational process. In this case, there is a transfer and acceptance process related to certain substances or ideas to be used as a way of life and as learning media in schools such as for social studies. The local wisdom-based education model is an educational model that has high relevance with the development of life skills by relying on empowerment skills and local potential in each region. In this educational model, learning materials have to be meaningful and relevant with real life. Thus, the curriculum has to be designed and prepared well in accordance with students' interests and psychological conditions. It also has to consider the sociological and cultural constraints faced by the students.

Local wisdom-based education teaches students to always be aware of real-life situations. This model is an example of education with high relevance for life development skills based on the empowerment of local skill and potential in each region.

Puppet

Puppet is an Indonesian traditional art consisting of drama and music. The show is played by a *dalang* accompanied by traditional music and song. The music was from *gamelan* which was played by a group of people called *niyaga* and *sinden* sung the traditional songs. Puppet is one of performance arts in this nation. In this modern-day, puppets are considered as classic and they are not easily understood by society. Thus, to make society understand, they are presented in various local languages. Puppets are an innovation in education and functions as fun learning media. The teachers become more creative in developing media to support the students' learning. It can be used as an alternative medium to increase students' interest in learning and to improve their achievement (Oktavianti, 2014). Besides functioning as learning media, the use of puppet in education context can preserve the Indonesian culture.

Puppet as Learning Media

The learning process needs to be supported by the development of media. Learning media have important roles in the learning process. The use of appropriate learning media can help teachers easily convey information to students so that they become more familiar with the presented material. Learning media are able to make students more interested in the presented materials so that the students are motivated to learn and finally they will be succeeded in learning. The interest in the learning process will develop students' enthusiasm in learning. Hamalik in Azhar Arsyad (2011) states that the use of instructional media in teaching and learning activities can increase students' interest and motivation, and even it brings psychological effects on students.

As learning media for social studies, puppets can facilitate teachers in delivering materials. Further, it improves students' motivation and interest in learning. Thus, besides beneficial for increasing the students' interest in learning, it improves the students' understanding of certain materials. Nanda (2010) defines puppet media as a craft that have a close relationship with the socio-cultural and religious conditions of the Indonesian people. The puppet is selected as media as it attracts students to focus on learning and to preserve local culture, particularly Sundanese culture. It also motivates students to learn. Basically, people know puppet only in Sundanese stories or performances. However, today, it can be developed as effective educational media in different packaging to attract students' interest. Puppets can be created from easily found materials (Oktavianti, 2014). The teacher can create interesting stories from the learning materials to keep the students' interest in learning. In other words, the learning materials can be inserted into the presented stories.

a) The Objectives of Using Puppet as Learning Media

- Puppets have been prepared and are played by the teacher.
- Teachers are the '*dalang*' and tells the roles of certain figures who maintain Indonesia's independence.
- Students watch the puppet show played by the teacher.
- The use of puppets as learning media for story-telling.

b) The Benefits of Using Puppet as Learning Media

Puppets function as media for character building. It means the characters of puppets give examples of how to respecting teachers and other people. For example, teachers provide advice to their students to avoid being arrogant. Poedjawawijatna in Walujo (2001: 12) argues that many aspects of puppets can be used for educational purposes and they can influence the persons' attitudes who enjoy the shows. Sudjana and Rivai (1992, p. 2) proposed the benefits of using learning media in the learning process:

1. Learning will be more interesting and it will improve the students' motivation;
2. Learning materials will be clearer and meaningful so that the students can easily understand the materials enable them to achieve the learning goals;
3. Teaching methods will be more varied, not limited to explaining using verbal communication, thus the students do not get bored and the teacher does not run out of energy as teachers often have full schedules;
4. Students can do more learning activities because not only limited to listening to the teachers' explanation, but also engaging in other activities such as observing, performing, demonstrating, acting, and others.

CONCLUSION

Puppets are one of the prominent Indonesian cultures among other cultural works. Puppet culture includes acting, sound, music, speech, literary, painting, sculpture, and symbolism arts. Puppets continue developing from time to time and functions as information media, propaganda, education, entertainment, philosophical understanding, and entertainment. But, currently, puppets are considered old-fashioned, thus people considered puppet show not attractive. Therefore, there must be innovation in learning, local wisdom-based learning to introduce puppets through developing learning media based on local wisdom. Puppet as a learning media for social studies can facilitate teachers in delivering materials. In addition, it can improve students' motivation and interest in learning, hence finally they will improve their understanding of the materials.

Local wisdom-based learning teaches students to always deal with real-life situation. This model of learning is an example of education with high relevance for life development skills by empowering skills and local potential in each region. Puppets are an innovation for education and they function as fun learning media. Puppets as learning media for social studies can facilitate teachers in delivering materials. In addition, it can improve students' motivation and interest in learning, so that they will have a better understanding of the materials. Further, the teacher will be more creative in creating new media to support the success of the teaching and learning process. The development of puppets as learning media is expected to be more creative and innovative and finally, it is expected to preserve Indonesian culture.

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