THE ROLE OF PARENTS IN THE INTRODUCTION OF DIGITAL LITERACY IN EARLY CHILDREN

Hendripal Panjaitan[1]
Susanti Nirmalasari[2]
Armanila[3]
Alfira Damayanti[4]

[1, 2, 3, 4]Faculty Of Islamic Religion, Al Washliyah University Of Medan, Indonesia.
(e-mail:ayahboendakhoelid@gmail.com)

Abstract: At this time the advancement of digital technology has influenced parents in educating children. In an all-digital era like this, there are many changes in how to educate parents. In the past, they preferred to play with their children, but now there have been many changes in educating children, for example, it is easier for parents to provide and introduce technology to children on the grounds that children can be quiet and not fussy. This method is recognized by many parents so that their children are not fussy and stay quiet. Digital technology is developing very rapidly at this time of course as parents need to be very clever in introducing digital literacy to early childhood. Because in the current era of digital technology, digital literacy for early childhood is also developing very rapidly.

Keywords: The Role of Parents, Digital Literacy, Technology, Early Childhood

Introduction

Education is defined as a business process of adult humans who are aware of their humanity in guiding, training, teaching and instilling values and basic outlooks on life to the younger generation, so that later they become human beings who are aware and responsible for their life tasks as human beings. , in accordance with the essential nature and characteristics of humanity. Improving a quality nation requires the development of education based on the high quality of education(Khadijah, 2014). Every child needs proper education to improve the standard of living so that it really requires an institution that is able to improve children's education in family education.(Suratman & Maemonah, 2021). Parents should not assume that education in the family is not important because the main basis that parents must give their children is education in the family(Sitti & Asi, 2022)within the family itself.

At this time the advancement of digital technology has influenced parents in educating children (Yaumi, 2018). In an all-digital era like this, there are many changes in how to educate parents. In the past, they preferred to play with their children, but now there have been many changes in educating children, for example, it is easier for parents to provide and introduce technology to children on the grounds that children can be quiet and not fussy. This method is recognized by many parents so that their children are not fussy and stay quiet(Amin, 2020). Digital technology is developing very rapidly at this time of course as parents need to be very clever in introducing digital literacy to early childhood(Gandana, 2019). Because in the current era of digital technology, digital literacy for early childhood is also developing very rapidly(Adiyati Fathu Roshonah, at. al, 2021). Coverage of digital literacy in early childhood such as the ability to use simple and restrictions in operating digital technology(Rusman, 2012).

In accessing or using simple access to children, it is necessary to have intensive assistance for early childhood. Given the importance of digital literacy for early childhood there is a need for intensive introduction and supervision.

Positive use of the internet in children really needs parental guidance. Therefore, to be able to provide guidance, parents are required to have good technical, knowledge, and emotional skills in accessing various information and entertainment via the internet.(Mahesti & Rustika, 2020). In other words, in using the internet by children at home, parental guidance is needed. This guidance is a concrete manifestation of digital literacy that can be passed on from parents to children, especially those under 12 years of age. The important role of parents as companions for children in using the internet is because children do not yet have the technical skills, knowledge or emotions to access various information and entertainment via the internet.

Not all users are wise to use digital technology, children still really need proper control and assistance from parents and teachers in using digital technology, choosing positive shows, and according to needs, this is what is called digital literacy according to(Osman, 2013). With parents playing a more active role in the introduction of digital literacy in early childhood, it will be more controlled. Not all services can be accessed by children, so parents must provide more education in the introduction of digital literacy for early childhood.

Digital technology in early childhood is one of the factors causing the importance of introducing digital literacy to children from an early age. This is because digital technology cannot be avoided by early childhood use, but instead the presence of digital technology must be utilized best for child development through proper guidance, direction and control from the environment around the child, namely teachers and parents.(Raheem, 2021). By using it wisely, we can take the positive side from this digital technology. In fact, it can make it easier for us to complete our daily tasks.

The formulation of the problem in this research is how is the level of parental involvement in early childhood digital literacy education. The purpose of this study is to describe parental involvement in early childhood digital literacy education. While the benefit of this research is to find out the level of parental involvement in digital iteration education for early childhood.

Method

The method used is library research (literature study), where the data collection method is carried out using library data (Sugiyono, 2022)in the form of papers, journals, articles, and other supporting sources, by reading related literature regardingthe role of parents in the introduction of digital literacy for early childhood in the digital era, then the data is recorded and the data processing collected is related to the research material to be analyzed.(Zed Mestika, 2014)

The data analysis used in this research is in the form of content analysis, where the research notes are taken from examining the contents of the contents of literature reading material records whose discussion is in-depth. This analysis is used for qualitative data that is descriptive analytic in nature, namely data obtained from observations, documentation studies, document analysis, field notes and others, which are not set forth in the form of numerical data but descriptive words.(Sugiyono, 2021). So, data analysis is done by enriching information, looking for relationships, comparing, finding patterns based on the original data. The results of data analysis are an explanation of the situation under study which is presented in the form of a narrative description, the data presented is related to the question of why and how this phenomenon occurs and this aims to provide an interpretation of the concepts and meanings contained in the data.(Mardawani, 2020)

Result and Discussion

Early Childhood in the Age of Digital Technology

Currently is the era of digitization, namely an era where digital technology is no longer a new thing, people, adults to children are now living side by side with digital technology and have become users of various digital technologies, such as television, gadgets, computers, tablets, and others(Daulay, SH., Faridah, F., Shaumiwaty, S., & Kurniati, 2021). The digital technology devices mentioned above are no strangers to all of us. We often find it even we ourselves have it, and even more so we have it not only one fruit. With these devices we can make it easier to complete our daily tasks. In the current era of digital technology, we are getting younger in every way, such as making it easier to communicate, shopping and other transactions. Today's digital technology, such as the use of telephones, multimedia computers, the internet and other audio-visual facilities for learning, communication that takes place in an educational context is increasingly advanced. As a good parent, you should be able to take advantage of technological advances for children's learning, not only following developments but also having to make good use of it so that technological developments do not go to waste. Usually, early childhood are always interested in new things and technology is something new for children, therefore parents must be able to use technology to attract students' interest in learning (Eem Kurniasih, 2019). Early childhood now tends to be more interested in digital technology in today's era. It is easy for children to operate these digital technology devices, sometimes without being taught the child can already use them. This shows that digital technology is so easy to operate and can be used by anyone. Usually, early childhood are always interested in new things and technology is something new for children, therefore parents must be able to use technology to attract students' interest in learning (Eem Kurniasih, 2019). Early childhood now tends to be more interested in digital technology in today's era. It is easy for children to operate these digital technology devices, sometimes without being taught the child can already use them. This shows that digital technology is so easy to operate and can be used by anyone. Usually, early childhood are always interested in new things and technology is something new for children, therefore parents must be able to use technology to attract students' interest in learning (Eem Kurniasih, 2019). Early childhood now tends to be more interested in digital technology in today's era. It is easy for children to operate these digital technology devices, sometimes without being taught the child can already use them. This shows that digital technology is so easy to operate and can be used by anyone. It is easy for children to operate these digital technology devices, sometimes without being taught the child can already use them. This shows that digital technology is so easy to operate and can be used by anyone. It is easy for children to operate these digital technology devices, sometimes without being taught the child can already use them. This shows that digital technology is so easy to operate and can be used by anyone.

In this era of digital technology, early childhood is very interested, apart from being entertainment and games for children, it can also be used as a means of education for early childhood. The above was also expressed by (Suhendro, 2020) distance learning is supported by media assistance in the form of digital gadget devices (smartphones) embedded via the internet network. This is also known as online learning. Like it or not, this method provides opportunities for children to come into contact with digital technology and be connected to the internet. Digital technology in early childhood is one of several factors causing the importance of introducing digital literacy to early childhood. In this era of digital technology, of course, there must be the introduction of digital literacy to children from an early age. This is because digital technology cannot be avoided using it by early childhood, but on the contrary if the presence of digital technology is used it should be better for children's development through proper guidance,

direction and control from the environment around the child, namely teachers and parents. So in this era of digital technology, it must be used properly and wisely for early childhood.

Introduction to Digital Literacy for Early Childhood

       Paul Gilster introduced the term digital literacy in 1997 in his book Digital Literacy. Paul Gilster interprets that awareness, attitude and personal competence to make the right use of digital tools and facilities to identify, access, manage, integrate, evaluate, analyze, build new knowledge, synthesize digital resources, create media expression, and connect with others , a life in the context of an atmosphere, to enable constructive social action; as well as reflecting on a process called deep digital literacy (Shopov).

       It can be seen that digital literacy is a conscious attitude, one's ability to be utilized and appropriate can be used to identify, access, manage, and integrate, evaluate, analyze, add new knowledge, synthesize new digital knowledge, express digital media, interact with people others, in life and atmosphere, to carry out social activities that are structured and can be reflected.

       Digital literacy is also the ability to understand information and communication technology (ICT) to communicate content/information in cognitive and technical forms (Pratiwi N, 2017). Digital literacy can be used as a means of communicating digitally which contains content and information in the form of notifications/information or in a separate way. In the context of early childhood, digital literacy can be understood as an ability to understand information from the content they see through their digital access. Meanwhile, according to Hague and Payton in Elpira's research, conveying digital literacy as a person's competence to apply functional skills to digital devices so that they can obtain and sort information, be creative, think critically, cooperate with others, be effective in dealing, maintain the development of socio-cultural aspects and security. In the field of education, optimal digital literacy has a role in developing individual knowledge related to learning by encouraging curiosity and creativity possessed by children (Elpira, 2018).

       Early childhood in applying their abilities to digital tools/devices such as mobile phones can sort information, be creative, think critically, work together, relate well, control the progress of content and have security in accessing the content. So, if children are able to master this, early childhood can use digital technology wisely and correctly. Because early childhood still needs full assistance from parents, it is necessary to have the role of these parents in introducing digital literacy in this era of digital technology.

The Role of Parents in the Introduction of Digital Literacy

       Parents have a responsibility in educating their children, including in the introduction of digital literacy in this era of digital technology. Many early childhood now are addicted to gadgets. Parents who don't pay attention to their children, if the child asks for a cell phone, just give it directly. On the pretext that parents don't want to be complicated with the whining of children who beg for the cellphone. In line with the expression (Basyiroh, 2017) for this reason, many parents just give electronic devices to their children without being accompanied. Introducing and assisting when children access digital sites by these children requires intensive assistance. Starting from the selection of content that is accessed by children, the time allowed to access it, to the settings on cellphones. According to (Desi Nur Safitri & Elise Muryanti, 2021) parents play an important role in early childhood education in this new normal era. By habituating and providing restrictions on the use of digital technology by parents and teachers for children, it is hoped that early childhood skills in using digital technology can be realized wisely and to protect children from the negative effects of using digital technology in today's era. here the role of parents is needed in the introduction of digital literacy for early childhood so that

children can be wiser in accessing digital sites. Parents who play a full role in this context. Parents are the controllers for the introduction of early childhood literacy. If parents provide adequate education in accessing digital sites, children will be able to sort things out and be guided in recognizing digital literacy. Likewise, if parents do not introduce and do not accompany early age children in accessing digital sites, children will be free and cannot control periodically or the content they access. So that it will also have a bad impact on the child itself.

The Role of Parents in Digital Literacy Assistance for Early Childhood in the Digital Technology Era

In early childhood, digital literacy is defined as combining cognitive, physical, socio-emotional and socio-cultural elements to increase the positive use of technology, while taking into account the specific developmental needs of early childhood, such as fine motor skills, personal development. and social, executive functioning skills and, emerging literacy. From the various aspects of child development above, it can be developed through digital technology with the introduction of digital literacy in early childhood. Of course, with the active role of parents and providing good introduction and direction to children.

Currently, many places for Early Childhood Education (PAUD) have introduced technology as a medium of learning. Some PAUDs that have international standards even provide assignments in digital form. Just take the example of children being able to do assignments from their gadgets by downloading them. It is known that many Early Childhood Education Institutions (PAUD) have introduced learning media with digital technology. Everything can be facilitated in learning activities through today's digital technology. Digital literacy is a combination of information and communication technology skills, critical skills in thinking, cooperation, and social awareness. Especially during this new normal era, where the use of digital technology by children is increasing. Digital technology is used as a medium of information and communication in learning, such as watching learning videos provided by teachers or from various social media platforms, establishing communication with teachers about school assignments. Apart from learning, digital technology such as smartphones is used by children to play games and it is not uncommon for young children to be able to access the internet to play online games, watch cartoons and more.

The proper use of digital media will of course have a positive impact on children's development, but on the contrary if excessive consumption of digital media will have a negative impact on children's development. Time restrictions for early childhood in accessing digital content must also be limited, the role here is parents. Parents can schedule time/times for children to hold their gadgets.

The importance of accompanying parents on the use of these devices because gadgets can have several consequences for early childhood who are dependent on devices, including (1) children tend not to care about their environment, (2) children do not pay attention to their parents' orders because they are too busy playing with gadgets, (3) they can receive information well but cannot communicate well with their parents, and (4) they cannot build a warm relationship with their parents because they are too preoccupied with their gadgets fikasafitri(Achmad Ali Fikri, Syamsul Arifin, 2022). Knowing the consequences of using these devices, then with the role of parents in this child's digital literacy, it can be minimized. So the role of parents in the introduction of digital literacy in early childhood in this era of digital technology is very important. So parents must be able to provide full guidance to children when children access digital content. Given that digital literacy is very important, and this digital technology can have both positive and negative impacts. However, this does not mean that in this digital technology era it must be avoided, instead it must be introduced to children wisely.

The Benefits of Digital Literacy for Early Childhood The introduction of digital literacy with the aim is not only to protect digital technology users from negative exposure to digital media but so that children have the ability to think critically, be able to express themselves and participate in digital media. As the opinion of Thomas and Jolis in(salehudin mohammad, 2020), literacy is not only about keeping children away from unwanted information such as by turning off the TV, but by helping children become educated, competent, and critical in a variety of media so that what is seen and heard can be interpreted. Digital literacy has benefits so that children can understand information obtained through digital media as a lesson and can use technology wisely. This opinion is supported by isma's statement (Nasrullah et al., 2017), which states "digital literate is able to create a social order with critical-creative views and mindset, becomes a victim of hoax information, does not easily accept provocative issues, or is a victim of deception that digital based". with the application of digital literacy in early childhood, Children are expected to have an easy attitude to adjust and interact with the social environment, full of ideas and productive as well as independent and think critically. A'yuni deep(Zahra Isnaini et al., 2020), stated that the provision of digital literacy that is given by parents to children properly, it is hoped that early childhood does not imitate the negative behavior of shows that exist on digital technology. This is all because all learning activities cannot be separated from the role of technology.

The Impact of Using Digital Technology for Early Childhood Digital technology connected to the internet which is usually used as a tool for communication and obtaining information has 2 opposite sides, namely positive impacts and negative impacts. The positive impact of digital technology makes it easier in many ways. As expressed by (Setiawan, 2017), the era of digitalization makes it easier to obtain information quickly, the growth of innovation in various fields that make work and activities easier, the availability of various learning resources such as digital libraries, technology-based discussions that can improve the quality of education. In line with what was stated (Nisa', 2020), technology can be used in the early childhood learning process to increase children's interest in participating in learning.

The negative impact of the introduction of digital technology according to Leung and Lee in (Kurnia, 2017), namely children and adolescents who access digital technology connected to the internet are at risk of meeting people who have the potential to harm their children, contaminated with viewing of violence, hatred, pornography, content that deviates social, connected with pedophilia, commercial exploitation, privacy is not protected, and associated with people who are not recognized.

In addition, negative impacts can come from within the child and family according to Hughes & Hans(Kurniawan, 2020), for example, users tend to isolate themselves from direct interaction with other family members and get used to living in an online world that is considered more interesting than the real world. This tendency is usually caused by users who are still limited in their knowledge and emotionally unstable and too enthusiastic about using the internet. Users who are incompetent with digital media can lead to consumptive actions including watching television without restrictions, social media without time limits, playing games both online and offline, opening pornographic sites, and other information that is not useful.

The use of technology does not only have a positive impact, there are negative impacts that haunt early childhood, so it is necessary to introduce digital literacy for children, so that children are able to take advantage of technological developments positively.

Conclusion

The role of parents in the introduction of digital literacy for early childhood in this digital technology era is very important. Given that in this era of digital technology development is very rapid. So there is a need for parental guidance in the introduction of digital literacy in early childhood. Assistance from parents that can be done is by supervising when children access digital content, providing restrictions to children on what applications are allowed to be accessed and limiting the time / length of time children can access digital technology. Digital with the role of parents, the negative impacts arising from activities to access digital content can be minimized. Besides that, From the positive side, developments in this digital technology era can facilitate everything in everyday life. So, in fact, this digital technology can be maximized and put to good use by parents and children in particular. That way, children in the introduction of literacy in this digital technology era can be properly escorted by their parents.

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