# USING DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD LITERACY DEVELOPMENT

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**ABSTRACT** : Early childhood is a fundamentally useful period in life. This time period is knownas the "golden age" or the "typically children's" decade. Literacy is a person's ability to understand and organize information when reading and writing. In its development, the definition of literature has always undergone a revolution in accordance with developments in the modern era. Digital literacy among the younger generation is defined as curiosity, understanding, and enthusiasm in using available digital media to search for and utilize information, study, play, or obtain health information responsibly through interactions with adults nearby. develop children to think critically, that is, think rationally and openly, applications with technology that make children receive information more quickly, and it all depends on the determination.

KEYWORDS: Literacy, Early childhood, Technology

## **INTRODUCTION**

Early childhood education is a very important aspect of everyone's life. This period is known as the child's "signature period", sometimes known as the "golden period". At this point, it is important to recognize the small growth and development that every child experiences in this world. For optimal growth and development. For children in the diaspora, education is used to overcome these weaknesses and obstacles. In accordance with Decree Number 20 of 2003 and also mentioned in Permendikbud Number 146 of 2014 concerning the 2013 Curriculum, early childhood education is the physical and spiritual growth and development of children so that children are ready to enter further education. Early childhood education is a coaching effort that carried out before reaching the age of 6 school years or at the beginning of school entry. Education for children.





Literacy itself is a person's ability to carry out the process of reading and writing, but not everyone is able to understand or process the information they read. In this case, the notion of literacy is always evolving with the times and always poses a challenge, from the past literacy is the ability to read and write now the term Literacy has begun to be too broad and began to involve cultural practices that also answer questions about social and political issues.

Digital literacy among young people is defined as curiosity, understanding and enthusiasm in using available digital media to seek and utilize information, learn, play, or gather health- related information openly and honestly through interactions with nearby adults. In addition, digital knowledge, understanding and skills are important components in digital transformation.

Digital literacy should be introduced to the younger generation as they have a strong appetite for knowledge, especially about technology. Features that trigger challenges as well as fun for children on Gedgets. Games, movies, music and cartoons with graphics and cartoon alerts give children a different play experience. Also, exposing or sitting the baby at certain times will cause the child's curiosity to become more sensitive. On the contrary, teaching children how to use devices and when to use them will help them use technology in a safe and responsible way. It is important that parents equip children with healthy digital literacy through mentoring. Whenused correctly, digital literacy becomes a tool for support children learning and prevent stagnation of their development (ifina trimaulana).

Facility relationships (tools & home) which include the internet, laptops, PC computers and smartphones YouTube is quite popular among the general public and is mainly used for streaming music. Apart from YouTube, Whatsapp, Facebook and Instagram are social media platforms that are popular among Indonesians (Editorial, 2019). The emergence of YouTube as the most popular social media platform in Indonesia can be utilized for education and learning media, especially digital literacy. Digital literacy can be defined as "the ability to use digital technology and communication tools, and/or networks to access, transfer, integrate, assess, create, and function as information communication tools" more comprehensively (Nelson et al., 2011).

have been developed by individuals and organizations to improve children's digital literacy. Encouraging children to read this kind of literature will help them to be flexible and adaptable, as well as socially engaged, productive, independent and self-aware. It will also help them develop critical thinking skills. Therefore, one of the points that can be raised regarding the statements in this article is the availability of digital literacy resources for Asian children, such as what parents can do to support and encourage the literacy of their Asian children.

The habits of elementary school students to maintain their learning mood are usually learning while listening to music. M e a n w h i l e , junior and senior high school students usually watch motivational or inspirational videos and think about the future to generate feelings of pleasure and enthusiasm in learning. (Dadan Darmawan, 2020).





The Indonesian government has recognized the existence of alternative education or what is known as equality education as stated in the National Education System Law No. 20 of 2003, while it is explicitly stated that equality education is part of a program rather than a non-formal education pathway (Mutaqim, 2022).

Education in the current era faces quite a complex situation along with adjustments changes simultaneously with technological disruption. Then those changes has implications for the learning process which usually uses a learning approach oriented towards the transfer of knowledge into learning by constructing experience learners. Learning carried out in alternative education such as equality education currently held by the PKBM unit does not show good climatic conditions and learning outcome orientation (Rosmilawati, 2023).

## **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

SLR is an analysis and critical assessment of previous research carried out systematically by adhering to predetermined standards. This method is used to review research results that have been published in journals in certain fields of study. The purpose of using the systematic literature review (SLR) method in research is to analyze data from severalstudies that have been completed by researchers in a particular field. It is important to understand the methodology to identify flaws in any research project. The advantage of this method is that it can be applied to various fields of science without requiring the specification of the characteristics of science, either vague science or deep science. This method is becoming increasingly popular among researchers due to the reduction of public domain resources after the COVID-19 epidemic.

According to its basic principle, a systematic review is a research method that summarizes preliminary research findings in order to present more comprehensive and accurate facts. Furthermore, this systematic literature review is conducted Utilizing a systematic methodology to assess research findings, support research participants, There are several clear criteria to fit the article to be presented, such as minimizing bias, being able to link results with a narrative meta-analysis or metasynthesis, and having a systematic approach to the methodology and procedures for analyzing results. In contrast to narrative or meta- analysis-based meta-analysis, meta-analysis is the result of quantitative research using high-quality statistical components.

SLR research is conducted for various purposes, including the identification, characterization, evaluation and clarification of all existing research findings with relevant research questions. In addition, it provides a theoretical background to the research questions addressed, which can be used as a guide, as well as a means of understanding previous research that has been conducted.





#### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

The educational process is very important in improving the level of education, so that the final product of education can benefit students. Learning strategies that are interesting and able to provide stimulation for students from various fields can help them reach their potential ideally. can be built usefulness and meaningfulness of learning. Utilizing digital devices and internet access is known as digital literacy. In the 21st century, after the industrial revolution that preceded the era of

4.0 and perhaps even the 5.0 era, time and space are no longer barriers and obstacles in the exchange of information and communication. Supriano (2019) states that critical thinking, communication, cooperation, and creativity-the four Cs-are essential in the teacher selection process and the implementation of rigorous and sophisticated education.

The first step is to help children develop critical thinking skills, such as being observant and logical, especially in relation to technology, so that they can acquire information more quickly and rely on how best to utilize it. Next, another technology skill that children should have is effective communication and how it can be improved in the education process. The third is collaboration and teamwork. One of the most important things in the twenty-first century is the ability to work well with others. This is because good teamwork can increase the number of good working days. In addition, a child's skills must include creativity and creative thinking in order to participate in this rapidly developing world.(Nisa Luthfatun).

Based on the 3 sources of journal articles that have been determined to meet the inclusioncriteria, there is also a description of the results of the study as follows Table 1

## Table. 1 Research results on early childhood learning communities

Research and Year Research		Journal	Research Results
Khikmah	Novitsari	Journal of obsession: Using	Findings of researchshows that
University	PGRI	Multimedia Technology in	throughout utilization of
Yogyakarta, 2019		Early Childhood Literacy	multimedia technology in
		Learning.	learning at Sleman Model
			Kindergarten, environmental
			education activities are carried
			out by emphasizing attention
			and focus.
Desi nur safitri,elise Muryantib,		Journal of obsession: analysis	The findings of findings show
Padang	State	of the introduction of digital	that digital literacy is
University,		literacy for early childhood in	characterized by the use of
Indonesia2021		the new normal period.	information And





		communication technology (ICT), such as television,
		smartphones, laptops and
		tablets. The use of digital
		technology byyoung children is
		increasing every day. In
		accordance with what was
		revealed (Rahmah, 2015), the
		number of gadget users in
		Indonesia is increasing,
		and this trend can even be
		predicted I the gadget
		penetration rate in the country
		exceeds the population.
		population. According to the
		Digital Marketing Association
		(Emarketer, 2014), in 2018
		there will be an increase in
		the number of active
		smartphone users in Indonesia
		which is estimated to reach
		more than 100 million.
Luthfatun Nisa' Institut	Journal of obsession:	that children today grow and
Agama Islam Negeri Madura,	Technology Utilization in Early	develop along with
2020	Childhood Education	technological advances.
		Various applicationstechnology
		is developed and used in
		various circumstances and
		countries. When these
		technologies are used fairlyand
		impartially, they can be of
		great benefit and can help
		provide educational materials
		and stimulants that energizing
		for children (NAEYC
		and FRC
		:2012).
		Which represents critical
		Thinking in achieving learning
		objectives and outcomes. The
		abovestatement is in
		accordance with the results of the second research study
	1	the second research study



which states that digital
learning materialsare one type
of educationalmodel that uses
technologysuch as laptops and
cellphone computers, which are
electronic devices that can be
connected to the internet and
used for daily purposes. Create
lesson plans based on student
needs.

The journal findings show that reading, writing, learning and engaging in educational play are important. Sleman Model Kindergarten uses reading content in its teacher letters. This reading is further divided into several sections, namely: discussion of letters, naming objects and animals around them, and discussion of sound animals. Young children can with interesting pictures, sounds and animations, recognize letters easily.(Novitasari Khikmah).

## CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Digital literacy is important and must be explained to the younger generation, especially in the new normal. One of the most important impacts of this digital literacy shift is the increased use of technology by Asian children, as well as changing teaching methods that incorporate the use of digital technology into the education of Asian children. To explain the benefits of digital literacy to children, parents and teachers must work together. Children must grow up to be digitally literate and able to use technology in constructive andcreative ways.

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