

## The Role of Parents in Supporting Students' Literacy Activities at Home at Elementary School Level

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### Abstract

This study aims to analyze the role of parents in supporting children's literacy at home and the factors that cause low interest in literacy in students at SD N 102004 Tiga Juhar. This study uses a qualitative method with a case study approach, where data is collected through observation, interviews, and documentation. The results of the study indicate that low interest in literacy in students is caused by a lack of reading habits, minimal reading resources available, low parental guidance, and lack of awareness of the importance of literacy. In addition, excessive use of gadgets is also an inhibiting factor in the development of children's literacy. The role of parents is very important in creating a conducive literacy environment, such as by providing reading materials, reading stories, and building reading habits at home. With the active involvement of parents, children's literacy can develop optimally, thereby improving their academic achievement

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### Keywords

Literacy; Parental Role; Reading Interest; Children's Learning; Case Studies

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### Introduction

The role of parents in children's literacy at home is very important. Where parents as guides and educate children at home, the role of parents is also as teachers and role models for children in literacy, because parents are the first to become teachers for them who teach them to read books from an early age, become good literacy models, provide diverse reading materials, monitor and support the development of children's literacy. By carrying out these roles, parents can help children develop strong literacy skills and instill positive reading habits from an early age.

Literacy activities at school can be carried out by students by reading books at school, having discussions and presentations in class, visiting the library, and such as writing activities in class. By implementing various literacy activities at school, students' skills in reading and critical thinking can be developed which are very important for the success of their lives in the future. In elementary school literature classes, one of the problems faced is that when students

study at school, they often find it difficult to read to each other out loud. There are references owned by teachers, lack of mastery of teachers in the use of technology, quota or internet signal and teachers do not have enough time to accompany children in reading, reading is not interesting, and difficulty in accessing reading.

However, based on initial observation data taken from SD N 102004 TIGA JUHAR, students at the school are indicated to have minimal literacy. This is based on the results of interviews with class teachers regarding students' literacy skills. The majority of students at this school tend to be lazy when asked to read a text. On another occasion, when interviews were conducted with several students at this school, the students stated that they did not know the importance of literacy for them. This causes students' motivation regarding literacy at school to be low. Several studies on the role of parents have been conducted by several researchers (Dewi & Masitoh, 2023) which state that in supporting children's literacy, the obstacles for parents in providing literacy activities at home are the lack of time available for parents and the lack of facilities and infrastructure at home. Where nowadays children are also more interested in gadgets than books so that children get bored easily when asked to read books. The following study (Pradita et al., 2024) stated that the results of this study showed that children's literacy skills were relatively low.

The consequences that caused this were the roles and division of tasks between fathers and mothers which were very unbalanced. Where the role of the mother is greater in accompanying the child compared to the father, the lack of parental awareness that the child's learning process is more optimal if there is cooperation between teachers and parents, the low level of parental knowledge which causes the child's knowledge to also be low, and the lack of parental ability to build an educational environment at home. (Fikri et al., 2023) stated that children in Sembalun Lawang Village have no interest in learning and reading. There are several factors that have the potential to correlate with the situation throughout Sembalun Lawang Village, including the community is less aware of the importance of early learning and learning outside of school because children usually prefer to play with gadgets after school. Based on various studies and expert views above, it can be concluded that there are several important roles of parents in supporting children's literacy activities at home, namely by providing an environment rich in literacy. So that parents can provide books and magazines to accustom children to reading and writing activities and by reading books regularly, for example reading story books or other readings and involving children in literacy activities, for example, parents can invite children to write letters, make shopping lists, or by reading together. By carrying out these roles, parents can help children develop strong literacy skills at home.

According to (Wahyuni & Darsinah, 2023) stated that Literacy is the process of absorbing scientific-based information from texts or oral with the aim of helping children read and write better. (Karima & Kurniawati, 2020) stated that early literacy activities in early childhood are not only carried out at school, but can also be carried out by family members at home. (Prasrihamni et al., 2022) said that Interest is a consistent tendency to pay attention and remember an activity during the learning process. This is an activity that is continuously supervised and accompanied by full satisfaction (Prayuda et al., 2024). Based on the theories of several experts above, it can be concluded that Literacy activities begin with the interests and abilities of students in absorbing information, both written and oral, which aims to help children read and write. This comes from early childhood which is not only done at school but can be done by Parents or family at home. What influences literacy activities is the child's interest. This activity must also be accompanied and supervised continuously accompanied by full satisfaction.

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## Methods

This research was conducted using a qualitative method, which is a type of case study research. The data generated from this qualitative method consists of written and oral descriptions of the subjects and observed behavior. A case study is a research method that comprehensively studies a program, event, activity, process, or group of people. Cases are limited by time and activity, and various data collection procedures are used at a predetermined time of April 2024 to collect comprehensive information.

In this study, a snowball sampling type was used, also known as snowball sampling, because of the large number of subjects to be studied, in SD N 102004 Tiga Juhar, as many as 32 students in class 3, where the number of male students was 14 and the number of female students was 18 students. So that it encourages researchers to use the snowball method. Through this type of research, it can examine how students' skills in answering questions are combined through an imaginative game of forming and throwing snowballs in the classroom. And how the role of parents is applied to students at home. So that the researcher can find out the cause of the lack of student literacy at home from several parental roles that are not applied to students. From the students' achievements and interests in learning in class, it can be concluded that the students do not get enough role from their parents in literacy activities at home.

In this study, data was collected through observation, namely by conducting direct observation at the place being studied and listening to what was said by someone being studied. In-depth interviews or interviews, namely by means of questions and answers between researchers and informants in this case, a person's ingenuity is very much needed because the results of the interview depend on their ability to find answers, record and interpret each answer. Documentation is a record of past events. Documentation can be in the form of writing, and images in the research activities carried out. Data language techniques use triangulation techniques. For example, data obtained from observation results are tested by interviews. which include: first Triangulation of data sources, Second Triangulation of documentation. Triangulation of data collection methods and triangulation of time. In this study, data analysis was carried out in three stages. First, data collected from various sources, such as observation and interviews. Second, the data is reduced through the creation of abstracts, which aim to produce a summary of the core, procedures, and relevant statements. Furthermore, it is arranged



in groups. Third, drawing conclusions, namely conveying explanatory descriptions in short and easy-to-understand language.

The first step we took was to visit the school that we would observe, namely SD N 102004 Tiga Juhar, Stm Hulu District, Deli Serdang Regency, on April 20, 2024. Class 3, the first we will interview the homeroom teacher regarding the extent of students' literacy activities in the classroom, the questions we give to the homeroom teacher are: first, how is the development of student literacy in the classroom?, second, what are the efforts of the homeroom teacher in overcoming students' inability to read?, third, what causes students to have minimal literacy?, fourth, what is the biggest challenge in teaching?. Next, we will observe students in the classroom. ask students to express the activities carried out at home after school, after that we observe parents, how the role of parents is in improving students' literacy activities at home, and what are the obstacles so that students have minimal literacy and what is the effect on their learning achievement both in class and at home. And observe how parents act in providing the use of gadgets and digital media that replace students' reading and writing activities.

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### Discussion

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### Conclusion

Based on the results of the interview research observations, it can be concluded that the lack of student literacy activities at home is caused by a lack of habituation, availability of reading sources, parental guidance, and awareness of the importance of literacy for child development. It takes extensive efforts from parents and the family environment to increase literacy awareness at home. as parents must have a full role so that students can develop their learning achievements, the things that parents must do are to motivate children in literacy at home.

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