FINGER PLAYS IN TEACHING ENGLISH TO YOUNG LEARNERS

PAPER

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ABSTRAK

Finger Plays In Teaching English To Young Learner Oleh: Redha Yuanita/ 2012

Makalah ini membahas salah satu kegiatan yang digunakan dalam pengajaran kosa kata bahasa Inggris untuk young learners (siswa di Taman Kanak-Kanak) yaitu: penggunaan finger plays. Dasar dari penggunaan finger plays ini mengacu kepada perkembangan kognitif dan emosional anak. Pada perkembangan kognitif, anak memiliki kemampuan yang terbatas dalam menerima informasi yang diberikan. Sedangkan pada perkembangan emosionalnya, anak memiliki rasa ingin tahu yang tinggi dan selalu menirukan semua yang mereka lihat dilingkungannya. Oleh karena itu, kegiatan yang menyenangkan diharapkan dapat membantu dalam perkembangan kognitif dan emosional anak. Melalui kegiatan finger plays dalam pengajaran kosa kata bahasa Inggris diharapkan hal tersebut dapat direalisasikan.

Finger plays merupakan kegiatan yang menarik bagi young learners untuk mengajarkan kosa kata bahasa Inggris dengan menggunakan permainan tangan melalui lagu. Dari gerakan yang dilakukan berdasarkan lagu yang ada, akan tergambar makna/isi dari lagu tersebut. Selanjutnya, lagu yang digunakan dalam finger plays adalah lagu yang berhubungan dengan kosakata yang akan di ajarkan.

Oleh karena itu, kegiatan ini perlu diperkenalkan kepada *young learners* agar dapat memotivasi mereka dalam belajar dan menciptakan suasana belajar yang menyenangkan sekaligus memudahkan anak dalam memahami kosakata baru.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Problem

Young Learners are the children in the range of age 2-7 years old, who learn in Kindergarten. Teaching English for young learners is different with teaching English for higher levels, because the language acquisition in foreign language is a process of teaching the learners to learn English, Woolhether (2010). It means that, they learn English from the basic. Besides, learning English is a process of teaching learners who already know about English.

In learning English, the learners face some obstacles. Some reasons of why learning English is difficult for the learners are: learners are hard to catch the complicated ideas, and it is hard for them to learn calmly. These obstacles are related with the children development, that they get limited ability in learning (catch the information given).

Beside that, young learners have high curiosity and they are also hyperactive. All of themrelate to learners world: the place for playing, enjoyment, and fun, Andy (2011). Through playing they can move their body freely (for examples: jump, dance, and so on). They also have some questions in their mind about something what they see, and also need appreciation from friends and people surrounding them. Those all ways, the teaching English needs fun activity which makes them to enjoy in learning English.

Based on the explanations above, one of the activities used to teach English for young lerners by using finger-plays. In Gigantino (2011) state the finger plays is the rhyme to use young children's hand movements which is called as body movement, and words to invite the children's interest. It can shape the body movement of little song and chants. By using finger plays, the cognitive development and emotional of learners will be covered, because the teaching of this activity is played by using songs and body movements which the learners like. Then, the purpose of finger plays in teaching English for young learners is to teach new concepts of English (vocabularies).

The songs in the finger plays activity should be selected and related to learners childhood (to make them familiar about the songs). As it has been implemented in teaching practice at school, it can be able to increase the understanding in English vocabularies. For that reason, the writer will explain about the implementation of finger plays in teaching English to young learners.

1.2 Limitation of the Problem

Based on the background of the problem above, the obstacles of learners in learning English are difficult for them to catch the complicated ideas and hard to learn calmly. Besides, the finger motions of the finger plays are engage with songs, chants, and rhymes. The writer limites the problem into an obstacles of learners that is they hard to learn calmly and the finger motions of the finger plays by using songs.

1.3 Formulation of the Problem

In this paper, the writer would like to discuss about teaching English for young learner by using finger plays. This problem can be formulated in the following question: "how does teacher use the finger plays in teaching English for young learners?".

1.4 Purpose of Paper

The purpose of this paper is to explain how does teacher teaches English to young learner by using finger plays. Hopefully, it will be a beneficial activity used by teacher.