



School Library Management in Increasing Students' Interest in Reading

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Abstract: Education is an essential basic need for the development of individuals and society. In this context, school libraries play an important role as a center of learning resources that support the learning process. This study aims to explore the influence of library services on students' reading interest and the quality of education in schools. Using the literature study method, the results of the study show that effective library service management includes: (1) planning, (2) organizing, (3) implementation, and (4) evaluation can increase students' access to diverse and relevant reading collections. In addition, interactive literacy programs and a comfortable library environment contribute to creating a positive reading culture. Support from schools in building strong literacy policies further strengthens students' interest in reading. Thus, well-managed library services not only support the improvement of students' literacy skills, but also contribute to the overall quality of education. This research emphasizes the importance of strengthening the role of libraries in improving the quality of education in Indonesia.

Keywords: Management, Library, Reading Interest

Introduction

Education is one of the basic human needs that cannot be avoided. As an important element in life, education plays a big role in shaping individual character, knowledge, and skills that will have an impact on the social, economic, and cultural life of a nation. Quality education is the main foundation for building a developed and prosperous society. Without good education, it will be difficult for individuals and society to develop optimally, both in terms of skills, creativity, and insight. Therefore, every educational institution has a great responsibility in ensuring that the educational process that is held is able to provide results that are in accordance with the needs of the world of work and the development of the times.

One of the most important aspects in realizing quality education is how educational institutions are able to create a conducive environment for learning. A supportive environment involves not only physical aspects such as facilities and infrastructure, but also specialized service programs designed to support the development of students' overall potential. In this case, library services are one of the important facilities that can have a positive impact on the learning process. Libraries provide abundant knowledge resources, ranging from books, journals, to access to various digital information relevant to various fields of study. According to Yudiarti (2019) School libraries as one of the educational facilities to support student learning activities play a very important role in spurring the achievement of educational goals in schools.

As a center for learning resources, the library not only functions as a place to store books, but also as a space to develop students' critical and analytical thinking skills. With easy access to a wide range of information, students can learn independently, expanding their horizons beyond what is taught in the classroom. Libraries can also be a means for students to conduct research, develop literacy skills, and increase their interest in reading.



This is important to build an active learning culture, where students are not only recipients of information, but also learners who are actively seeking new knowledge.

However, to make libraries an effective supporting service, it is necessary to have good and innovative management. Libraries must continue to develop and adapt to technological advances and changes in user needs. In this digital era, libraries no longer rely only on physical collections, but must also provide access to digital resources such as e-books, academic databases, and electronic journals. Moreover, The library can also organize various information literacy activities, research workshops, or scientific discussions to optimize its use by students and teachers. According to (Maharani, 2020) Every formal educational institution, both elementary, junior high, and high school, has a library. The phenomenon that occurs today is that many school libraries have not been properly managed, their existence does not receive special attention. As a result, children's interest in library books decreases, so children's interest in reading is low.

Thus, well-managed library services can be one of the keys in improving the quality of education in schools. This service not only supports the teaching and learning process, but also encourages students to continue learning and developing themselves. In the long run, libraries can help create a generation that is more critical, creative, and ready to face future challenges. The role of libraries as a support for the educational process must continue to be strengthened in order to have a significant impact on improving the quality of education in Indonesia.

Method

This study uses the literature study method, which is a systematic approach to collect, analyze, and synthesize information from various literature sources relevant to the research topic. This method aims to explore the information contained in the scientific literature, so that researchers can gain deeper insights into the phenomenon being studied. By accessing a wide range of data, from books and journal articles to research reports, researchers can ensure that the information used comes from credible and relevant sources.

Through literature studies, researchers can compare findings from previous research, identify gaps in the literature, and find areas that have not been widely explored. This approach not only provides a comprehensive overview of the topic being researched, but also helps in formulating new research questions. Thus, the literature study method becomes an effective tool to strengthen arguments and build a solid theoretical framework for the research to be conducted.

Results and Discussion

Result

The results of the study show that library services have a significant impact on student development, especially in increasing reading interest and literacy skills. Libraries that are relevant to students' needs are able to support the learning process and help students develop critical thinking and independent learning skills, which are essential for their future preparation. In addition to providing adequate facilities, the quality of library services is highly dependent on the management that is carried out. Good management ensures that the library not only functions as a repository for books, but also as an active learning center and supports the holistic development of students.

Four important stages in library management include planning, organizing, implementing, and evaluating. Planning includes the development of library programs



according to the needs of students, while organizing involves the division of tasks and the preparation of an efficient work structure within the library. The implementation of library operations and periodic evaluation of service effectiveness is the final stage that ensures the library runs optimally. With proper management, libraries can become dynamic learning centers and make a real contribution in supporting students' academic achievements.

Discussion

A. Concept of Libraries

School libraries are educational facilities that are specifically designed to support teaching and learning activities in the school environment. Its function is to provide a variety of reading materials and information sources that are relevant to the curriculum and the academic needs of students and teachers. According to Apriyani et al., (2021) The school library is a place to read for independent learning, which will involve students in the process of thinking to seek, find, process, and draw their own conclusions through available learning resources. Meanwhile, according to (Sodik, 2022) Libraries in educational institutions are part of the learning resource center, so they can support the implementation of formal education and provide opportunities to foster a reading attitude which in turn can encourage the use of libraries.

The school library contains not only textbooks, but also general literature, magazines, journals, and even digital media that can enrich students' knowledge. By providing easy and affordable access, school libraries play an important role in encouraging students to develop reading interests and literacy skills from an early age.

B. Prustaka Service Management Process

Library service management is a key component in ensuring that the library functions optimally and provides maximum benefits for students and the entire academic community. This management process involves a series of stages that must be implemented properly so that the library is not only a place to store books, but also a dynamic learning center. This stage starts from careful planning, proper organization, consistent implementation, to continuous evaluation. Each stage in the library service management process plays an important role in supporting the ultimate goal of increasing students' interest in reading and enriching their learning experience.

1. Planning

At this stage, the school together with the library manager design programs that are in accordance with the needs of students and the applicable curriculum. This planning includes the selection of a collection of books, magazines, journals, and digital resources that are relevant to the development of science and students' interests. In addition, in planning, a comfortable and functional library layout design must also be considered to support learning activities. Without good planning, libraries may not be effective in attracting students' interest and providing appropriate reading materials. According to Yudiarti (2019) library planning can include: (1) Goal setting, the purpose of the library must be clear, both for the short and long term, for example increasing students' interest in reading, enriching book collections, or strengthening digital literacy services. With targeted goals, library management can develop effective strategies and steps in achieving the predetermined vision. (2) Scheduling, This scheduling includes the preparation of daily, weekly, monthly, or annual work plans that involve various



activities such as the purchase of new books, facility updates, literacy training, or reading activity programs. Good scheduling ensures that each activity can be done on time and does not overlap with other activities. (3) Program implementation targets or objectives, an important part of planning, because libraries need to set a measure of success of each activity. These goals can be in the form of the number of visitors, the number of books borrowed, or an increase in students' interest in reading, and (4) Budgeting, to ensure that each library program and activity has sufficient funds to be implemented. Budgeting involves allocating funds for book purchases, facility maintenance, librarian training, and other activities, all of which must be planned according to the library's priorities and needs.

2. Organizing

Organizing is the division of labor planned to be completed by the members of the work unit, the establishment of effective inter-work relationships between them, and the provision of a reasonable working environment and facilities (Baidhawi et al., 2022). In this stage, the library management structure is clearly formed, including the division of librarians, library staff, and collaboration with teachers or other educators. Good organization allows the library to run more efficiently, with tasks evenly distributed. Library managers must also ensure that the book circulation system and literacy services run smoothly, such as book borrowing and returning systems, collection labeling, and book catalog management that is easily accessible to users.

3. Implementation

This is the core of the library's daily operational activities, where all the plans that have been prepared are implemented in real life. In this implementation, libraries must actively provide services to students, such as providing reading recommendations, holding literacy activities, and assisting students in finding the sources of information they need. Good implementation also includes maintaining the physical condition of the library so that it remains neat, comfortable, and attractive to visit. All facilities and services provided must be maintained in quality in order to be able to support the purpose of the library as a learning center. In addition, libraries can also collaborate with teachers to integrate library activities in learning, for example by providing research-based learning modules or projects that involve the use of library resources. The implementation of a creative and well-organized program will help the library become more lively and relevant for students, so that their interest in literacy and reading culture is increasing.

4. Evaluation

The final stage is evaluation, which aims to assess the success and effectiveness of library service programs. Evaluations are carried out periodically to see if the library has achieved the planned goals, such as increasing students' interest in reading, increasing the number of visits to the library, or making optimal use of the collection. According to Maing (2019) This evaluation can mean an assessment of the extent to which the mission and objectives of the library have been achieved, and in this case related to planning the procurement of collections, procurement, processing of collections, and services to library visitors From the results of this evaluation, library managers can find out the areas that need to be improved, whether in terms of collection provision, facility management, or service management. With continuous evaluation, libraries can continue to innovate and adapt their services to the development of students' educational and literacy needs.



C. The Role of School Libraries in Supporting Learning

The school library plays an important role as a center for learning resources that support the student learning process. According to (Suhardi, 2011) The purpose of the school library is to support the educational process so that it can take place properly and smoothly and succeed in achieving educational goals in general. By providing a wide range of reading materials, from textbooks, reference books, to journals and other literature, libraries serve as a place where students can deepen their knowledge beyond the material delivered in class. Additionally, the library provides students with access to explore a variety of new topics that may not be directly related to the curriculum, but remain relevant for the development of their insights and critical thinking skills.

More than just providing reading materials, school libraries also play a role in fostering a culture of literacy among students. Literacy activities such as reading clubs, writing competitions, or book discussions can be held to motivate students to be more interested in reading activities. With these activities, students not only improve their academic abilities, but also learn to explore new ideas, understand different points of view, and hone analytical thinking skills. In a supportive environment such as a library, students are also encouraged to develop sustainable and independent reading habits, which are very useful in facing challenges in the world of education and future careers.

The role of libraries in supporting learning can also be seen from their ability to encourage independent learning. According to Jiai (2019) The existence of a library is expected to allow students to develop skills to find information for their own needs. In the library, students learn to search for information independently, research topics that interest them, and manage their own study time. This self-paced learning is important because it teaches students to become lifelong learners who can adapt to changing information needs. Through the library, students gain access to not only printed materials but also digital resources that allow them to stay connected to the latest scientific and technological developments, making the library a bridge between academic knowledge and the real world.

D. Library Service Strategy in Increasing Reading Interest

To increase students' interest in reading, school libraries must implement various effective service strategies. One of the main strategies is to provide a collection of reading materials that are diverse and relevant to students' interests and needs. Libraries must ensure that the available collections cover a wide range of genres, from fiction, nonfiction, to reference books related to school lessons. In addition, book collections also need to be constantly updated to always be up-to-date with the latest literature trends and in accordance with technological and information developments. Students who have access to interesting and diverse reading options will be more motivated to make reading a habit.

In addition to a diverse collection of readings, library programs also play an important role in attracting students' interest. Programs such as reading ambassadors, reading competitions, or literature discussions can create an atmosphere that supports literacy activities. For example, a "Reading Challenge" program that challenges students to read a certain number of books in a certain period of time can be an effective way to encourage students to read more often. According to (Hikmawati & Munastiwi, 2019) Teachers and librarians can help increase children's interest in reading with activities: 1) publishing a list of books for students, 2) planning activities to promote reading interest such as reading interest competitions, 3) giving assignments to students



about books borrowed from the library, 4) telling successful people as a result of reading, 5) inviting students to study in the library, 6) motivating students to read a lot in their free time, 7) organizing a story telling hour to the students. Interactive and collaborative library programs, such as reading ambassadors or story-sharing sessions, also allow students to not only enjoy the reading process but also share their views and ideas with classmates. This creates a community of readers who support each other and strengthens the literacy culture in schools.

The obstacles of library management in increasing students' interest in reading often start from the lack of attractive and comfortable facilities for students. Many school libraries are still designed with a less flexible layout and do not provide visual appeal for students. Reading rooms that tend to be formal and rigid, without creative corners, make students feel bored and reluctant to spend time in the library. In addition, the collection of books available is often less relevant to the interests and needs of students. Many school libraries have limited collections, do not keep up with the times, or do not update books according to the latest literacy trends that students are interested in.

The design and layout of the library also plays an important role in increasing reading interest. A library that has a comfortable, neat, and well-organized layout will create an atmosphere that is conducive to reading. A bright reading room, with comfortable chairs, and a dedicated area for relaxing reading will provide a sense of calm for students who want to concentrate while reading. The modern design of library spaces, including informal discussion areas as well as individual reading corners, can create a library as a pleasant place to visit. Accessible book placement, as well as book recommendation boards, can help students find suitable reading materials easily. With a comfortable and attractive atmosphere, students will feel more encouraged to spend time in the library, so their interest in reading will naturally increase.

E. The Influence of Library Services on Reading Interest

Quality library services have a great impact on students' interest in reading, and this influence can be further strengthened by the school environment as a whole. Libraries that provide a diverse and interesting collection of reading materials, as well as have adequate facilities, can encourage students to make reading a daily habit. When students find easy access to books that match their interests and needs, their motivation to read increases. Existence The literacy programs held by the library, also create an atmosphere that encourages interaction and discussion among students, thus strengthening their desire to read more. In addition, according to Yahya et al., (2021) Good management of library materials can increase students' interest in reading, so that it is able to form a reading culture in the school environment.

In addition to library services, the influence of schools as educational institutions also plays an important role in shaping students' interest in reading. Schools that have strong literacy policies and cultures will support reading activities inside and outside the classroom. For example, if schools integrate reading time into the curriculum, reward students who are active in reading, and hold activities related to literacy, then students will be more motivated to read. Support from teachers in promoting reading materials that are interesting and relevant to learning will also reinforce this positive influence. When reading is seen as an integral part of the learning experience in school, students will be more likely to develop a strong interest in reading.

By increasing reading interest and the quality of learning in schools, libraries contribute directly to the quality of education provided, making it one of the important



pillars in efforts to improve the quality of schools as a whole. As a result, the relationship between library services, reading interest, and school quality becomes closer, creating a better learning environment for all students. A high interest in reading not only improves literacy skills, but also contributes to a better understanding of concepts in the subjects taught. Students who are diligent in reading tend to have better academic achievements, which ultimately has a positive effect on the reputation and quality of the school.

Conclusion

Effective library services have a crucial role in increasing students' interest in reading and supporting the learning process in schools. Through good management, libraries not only provide access to a wide range of relevant collections of reading materials, but also create an environment conducive to learning. Literacy programs and interactive activities held in the library can encourage students to make reading a habit, broaden their horizons, and develop the critical and analytical thinking skills necessary to face future challenges. In addition, support from schools in building a strong literacy culture also contributes to the effectiveness of library services. Policies that support reading activities, rewards for active students, and the integration of reading time in the curriculum will further strengthen students' interest in reading.

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