

***IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM IN
IMPROVING STUDENTS' ENGLISH LITERACY AND NUMERACY SKILLS
AT SDN 091409 SARIMATONDANG***

**IMPLEMENTASI PROGRAM PENGABDIAN KEPADA MASYARAKAT
DALAM PENINGKATAN KETERAMPILAN LITERASI BAHASA INGGRIS
DAN NUMERASI SISWA DI SDN 091409 SARIMATONDANG**

**Lastris Wahyuni Manurung*, Galina Sijinjak, Anita Theresia Br Saragi,
Hesty Malinda Manalu, Lusi Manurung, Rachel Br Sidabutar, Yuniarta Br Hutasoit**

English Education Study Program, Faculty of Teacher Training and Education,
Nommensen HKBP University, Medan

*Email: lastris.manurung@uhn.ac.id

(Diterima 01-03-2023; Disetujui 27-03-2023)

ABSTRACT

The Community Service Program (PKM) aims to improve students' English literacy and numeracy skills and develop a culture of English literacy and numeracy within SD Negeri 091409 Sarimatondang. This form of community service activity is carried out in 3 states of activity: Literacy and Numeracy Learning Activities in English "English Day," Additional Lesson Hours Activities, and Repair of library archives. This activity begins February 6 – 25, 2023. The subjects of this community service are all grade 1 – 6 students at SD Negeri 091409 Sarimatondang. The method of implementing this activity consists of several stages: Preparation, Implementation, and Evaluation. The results of community service obtained are the success of increasing students' literacy, and numeracy abilities, and students have been able to implement it as a new culture in the school environment

Keywords: Community Service Program, English Literacy and Numeracy Skills

ABSTRAK

Program Pengabdian Kepada Masyarakat (PKM) ini bertujuan untuk meningkatkan kemampuan literasi dan numerasi bahasa inggris siswa, serta mengembangkan budaya literasi dan numerasi bahasa inggris di lingkungan SD Negeri 091409 Sarimatondang. Bentuk kegiatan pengabdian kepada masyarakat ini dilakukan dengan 3 bentuk kegiatan, yaitu; Kegiatan Belajar Literasi dan Numerasi Dalam Bahasa Inggris "English Day", Penambahan Jam Belajar, dan Perbaikan arsip perpustakaan. Kegiatan ini dimulai 6 – 25 februari 2023. Subjek pengabdian masyarakat ini adalah seluruh siswa kelas 1 – 6 di SD Negeri 091409 Sarimatondang. Metode pelaksanaan kegiatan ini terdiri dari beberapa tahapan, yaitu; Persiapan, Pelaksanaan dan Evaluasi. Hasil pengabdian masyarakat yang diperoleh adalah keberhasilan peningkatan kemampuan literasi dan numerasi siswa dan siswa telah mampu mengimplementasikannya sebagai budaya baru di lingkungan sekolah.

Kata Kunci: Pengabdian Kepada Masyarakat, Kemampuan Literasi dan Numerasi

INTRODUCTION

Literacy has become the most popular issue today; therefore, the Indonesian government is also actively carrying out literacy movements because considering the literacy level of Indonesian people is very concerning compared to other countries. According to Nurdiati (2020), the basic skills of 21st-century literacy include six main things, namely numeracy literacy, literacy, financial literacy, cultural and citizenship literacy, and digital literacy. Basic literacy is a movement initiated by the Ministry of Education and Culture and must be owned by students, so programs related to increasing literacy for students are

government-priority programs Literacy has a primary meaning which is the main door for the development of literacy broadly. In understanding of the correct information will be obtained from reading and understanding the contents of the reading obtained from an existing reading source because the more you read, the more information you get. In other words, the more you read, the more understanding of data is needed in society so that someone can be said to be literate when he understands what he reads. Antoro (2017), in its implementation, emerged the School Literacy Movement through the Regulation of the Minister of Education and Culture Number 23 of 2015 concerning the Growth of Character.

The urgency of literacy and numeracy as essential skills for elementary school students is problematic, considering that literacy culture has yet to become a habit for the current generation, especially students. Indirectly, the low interest in reading in the community results in low literacy in the community, where increasing the capacity of Human Resources is closely related to literacy skills. Several factors cause low student literacy and numeracy, including; the selection of textbooks, misconceptions, non-contextual learning, and students' reading skills, Fuadi & Jufri (2020). So that the reason why students delay completing assignments in English and math subjects is due to a lack of English literacy, which causes students to have difficulty completing their assignments, even though they know that these tasks are essential for the success of their learning, Oka & Wati (2018). So, literacy and numeracy skills are closely related to reading and writing culture. Reading and writing are the keys to gaining knowledge and information.

SDN 091409 Sarimatondang is a public elementary school located in Sarimatondang, Sidamanik District, Simalungun Regency. The school provides a literacy corner in each class to build a literacy culture. It cannot be used properly because of students' low interest in literacy and numeracy, especially in English. The students' English literacy and numeracy were relatively low based on the initial observations conducted by the PKM TEAM, SD Negeri 091409 Sarimatondang. This is due to the elimination of English subjects at the elementary school level. This is of course, causes students' ignorance and need to understand the importance of English literacy and numeracy skills. The PKM Team suspected that the students at 091409 needed encouragement in English literacy and numeracy. Hence, the Pkm Team decided to carry out the "English Day" program, which aims to improve students' English literacy and numeracy skills. Improving ability here is not only about achieving cognitive abilities by increasing students' English scores but rather about good habits that will continue to make an impression and carry over even though this program has been completed.

Based on the background above, the purpose of implementing the English Day Program through Community Service (PKM) is as an effort to improving students' literacy and numeracy abilities and skills in English.

MATERIAL AND METHOD

According to Anas Zulkifli (2013), the method is a way that can be done to implement plans that have been prepared in the form of natural and practical activities to achieve a goal. The Community Service Program (PKM) at SD Negeri 091409 will be held from 6 – 25 February 2023. This activity targets all students at SD Negeri 091409 Sarimatondang and involves all students implementing Community Service and field supervisors. In carrying out this activity, there were several stages carried out by the PKM Team of SD Negeri 091409 Sarimatondang, which can be seen in the following diagram:



Diagram 1. Implementation Method

1. The Preparation Stage involves carrying out debriefing, surveys, and discussions to obtain the information needed during program implementation and determine the activities' types and targets. Some of the steps carried out in the preparation stage include;
 - a. Debriefing is carried out to students and field supervisors to provide the knowledge needed in activities at school
 - b. Review or coordinate with the school
 - c. Observation by observing the school environment
 - d. Program planning, by compiling a series of activities to be carried out during the English Day program
 - e. Prepare materials and teaching aids for use in learning activities
2. Implementation, which includes English Day activities by delivering English literacy and numeracy material. Some of the stages carried out in the implementation stage include;
 - a. Teaching literacy and numeracy using English

- b. Repairing and arranging books in the library so that they are fit for use again
 - c. Improvement and follow-up plans, if there are obstacles during the teaching and learning process every week
3. Evaluation, includes activities to evaluate the success of activities and reporting
- a. Preparation and completion of the final report
 - b. Revision of the final report, carried out if there are improvements to the report
 - c. Submission of reports to the Community Service Activity Committee according to the specified time.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Community Service (PKM) with the target of SD Negeri 091409 Sarimatondang students targeting grades 1-6. This activity aims to improve students' English literacy and numeracy skills so that it becomes a positive culture in the school environment. Community Service Activities are implemented into three forms of activities, namely:

- a. Literacy and Numeracy Learning Activities in "English Day"

Literacy and Numeracy Learning Activities through "English Day" were carried out against a background of minimal knowledge of English at SD Negeri 091409 Sarimatondang. Based on the results of observations made to 225 students of SD Negeri 091409 Sarimatondang, the results were as shown in Diagram 2.

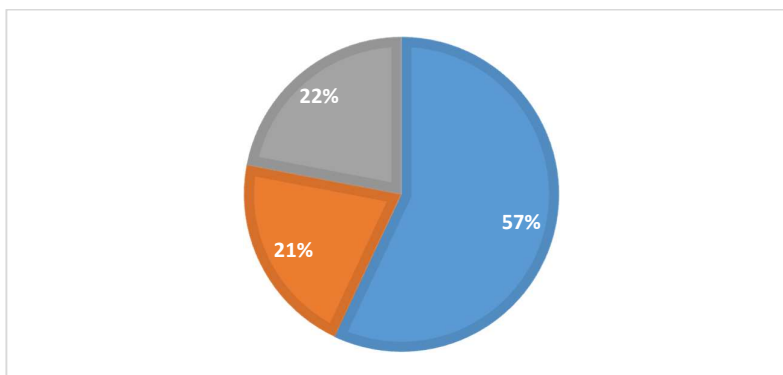


Diagram 2. Literacy and Numeracy Frequency of SD Negeri 091409 Sarimatondang

Based on the diagram above, we can see that 57% of students said they had never learned to read and count in English outside of textbooks, 22% of students said they rarely studied and only studied in tutoring places, and 21% of students said they had never learned to read and count at all in English. The results above show that the culture of literacy and numeracy in English at SD Negeri 091409 Sarimatondang needs to be improved and developed. So, the PKM Team and DPL created a program related to English literacy and

numeracy, namely the “English Day” program. In practice, the PKM implementation team will teach literacy and numeracy using simple English so students can easily understand without boring them. In addition, learning activities will be accompanied by other activities, such as singing while studying in English. It is important for motivating and uplifting students.



Figure 1. Literacy and Numeracy Activities Through “English Day”

b. Additional Lesson Hours Activities

The activity of adding study hours is necessary because there are still some students who still need to meet the learning achievement criteria. It can be seen from the results obtained in the Pre-test. For students who are not fluent in English literacy and numeracy, it won't be easy to continue learning activities because they cannot understand the lessons given at the beginning. To overcome this problem, the PKM Team opened additional study hours outside of school hours for all students who experienced this problem.



Figure 2. Implementation of Additional Teaching Hours

As a result of this activity, it can be seen an increase in students' English literacy and numeracy skills after the Post-test is carried out as the final test. These results can be seen in diagram 3 below;

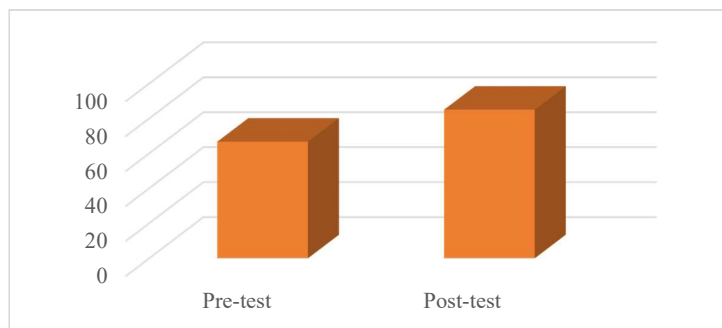


Diagram 3. Comparison of Pre-test and Post-test English Literacy and Numeracy Results

c. Library Archive Repair

This activity was carried out to help repair the library at SD Negeri 091409 Sarimatondang, which was abandoned and not maintained. The school welcomed this activity by trusting the PKM Team to improve the library. In this section, the PKM Team selects books that are suitable for use and those that are obsolete. Then arrange the books based on each category to make it easier for students to find the book they want to read. Apart from that, to make it easier for the school to see the number of books in the library, the PKM team also recorded and reported the number of books still suitable for school use. So that through this activity, students will be more enthusiastic about coming to the library to improve literacy and numeracy in English.



Figure 3 Library Archive Repair Process

CONCLUSION

According to the Directorate of Research and Community Service, University of Indonesia (2011: 4), Community Service is an activity that includes efforts to improve the quality of human resources, among others, in terms of broadening horizons, knowledge, and increasing skills carried out by the academic community as a manifestation of dharma devotion and a form concern to play an active role in improving welfare and empowering

the wider community, especially for economically weak communities. So, implementing the Community Service Program (PKM) at SD Negeri 091409 Sarimatondang, Sidamanik District, Simalungun Regency, went well and positively influenced students. It can be seen clearly from the students' enthusiasm in their involvement during the implementation of the "English Day" Program. Students' skills at SD Negeri 091409 Sarimatondang showed a significant increase. Participants totaled 225 students, most of whom were able to communicate simply in English, were able to count in English, and were able to remember vocabulary in English. With this increasing vocabulary, students can more easily learn English from books and other references.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Adi, N. N., Oka, D. N., & Wati, N. M. (2021). Dampak Positif dan Negatif Pembelajaran Jarak Jauh di Masa Pandemi Covid-19. *Jurnal Ilmiah Pendidikan dan Pembelajaran*, 5(1), 43-48.
- Antoro. (2017). Panduan Gerakan Literasi Sekolah (GLS). Jakarta: Direktorat Jenderal Pendidikan Dasar dan Menengah Kementerian Pendidikan dan Kebudayaan
- Anas Zulkifli. (2013). Sekolah untuk Kehidupan. Jakarta: AMP Press
- Direktorat Penelitian dan Pengabdian Kepada Masyarakat. (2013). Panduan Pelaksanaan Penelitian dan Pengabdian Kepada Masyarakat di Perguruan Tinggi Edisi IX. diunduh pada 17 Februari 2023 jam 20:39
- Fuadi, H., Robbia, A. Z., Jamaluddin, J., & Jufri, A. W. (2020). Analisis Faktor Penyebab Rendahnya Kemampuan Literasi Sains Peserta Didik. *Jurnal Ilmiah Profesi Pendidikan*, 5(2), 108-116.