

ANALYSIS OF STUDENT INTEREST IN SCIENCE TEACHING AT GRADE 5 OF MUHAMMADIYAH 25 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, MEDAN TEMBUNG DISTRICT, NORTH SUMATRA.

Berbi Sulasti Br Batunanggar¹, Indah Pratiwi², Muna Azizah Zahra Tarigan³

^{1,2,3}Primary Teacher Education, Teacher training and education faculty,

^{1,2,3}Universitas Muhammadiyah Sumatera Utara, Indonesia

ABSTRACT

The Meaning of Science Lessons as one of the lessons tested nationally needs to be improved in the quality of the lessons. The government has made many efforts to improve the quality of national education, including science education. Science education at the elementary school level will be able to make a significant contribution to the whole process of children's education at the next level and enrich their knowledge about nature and its phenomena. This study aims to determine students' interest in learning science in elementary schools. The research method used is a qualitative method. This research was conducted on May 17 2023. The subjects of this research were fifth grade students at SD Muhammadiyah 25, Jl. Pukat I N.19, Bantan Tim., Medan Tembung District, Medan City, North Sumatra. The data collection technique used is by giving questionnaires to students to fill out.

Keywords: *interest, study, science, elementary school*

Corresponding author:

Berbi Sulasti Br Batunanggar¹, Indah Pratiwi², Muna Azizah Zahra Tarigan³

Primary Teacher Education, Teacher training and education faculty

Universitas Muhammadiyah Sumatera Utara

Jalan Kapten Muktar Basri No 3 Medan 20238, Indonesia.

Email: ¹berbisulastri0089@gmail.com ²indahpratiwi@umsu.ac.id ³munaazizahzahratarigan@gmail.com

1. INTRODUCTION

The form of government business is realized through improving the curriculum every certain period of time (Tarmizi & Sulastrri, 2017). Science is one of the subjects studied in elementary school. Science is one of the main subjects in elementary school. Science education at the elementary school level will be able to make a significant contribution to the whole process of children's education at the next level and enrich their knowledge about nature and its phenomena.

Natural science education will be more efficient if the approach to the process of solving problems and forming scientific knowledge in children becomes a major part (Hernawati, 2017). The learning process is closely related to interest, because the emergence of interest will lead to activities that are profitable, fun and over time will bring satisfaction to that person. Interest is a preference and a sense of attachment to something or activity, without being told. If students are interested in learning, it will make their concentration better so that the material being studied will be easily understood. So that learning outcomes also become better or better. Many people like science lessons because it is interesting and fun. and not infrequently students also enjoy science lessons because they do a lot of practicum so that students can feel a new learning atmosphere. However, not a few students do not like science because it is too difficult to understand. Therefore, the learning method presented by the teacher must be fun so that students are interested in learning it.

Student interest in learning is necessary to achieve success in learning. According to (Andira et al., 2022) there are two factors that influence student learning interest, namely:

1. Internal Factors Internal factors are factors contained in the human person himself,
2. External factors are factors that come from outside the individual, factors that are can affect the process and student learning outcomes one of which is environmental factors.

A very important factor in supporting the achievement of the effectiveness of the teaching and learning process is student learning interest. This interest will affect the learning outcomes of the students concerned. The student's learning interest is something that really needs to be considered in the learning process. Because without an interest in learning from students the learning process will not take

place optimally. From the description above, that interest or willingness is very important to support the achievement of success (Andira et al., 2022).

2. RESEARCH METHODS/MATERIALS AND METHODS/LITERATURE REVIEW

The research method used is a qualitative method. Qualitative research methods aim to explain a phenomenon in depth and are carried out by collecting data as deeply as possible. Qualitative methods prioritize the observation of phenomena and examine more the substance of the meaning of these phenomena. This research was conducted on May 17, 2023. The subjects of this study were fifth grade students at Muhammadiyah 25 Elementary School, Jl. Pukat I N.19, Bantan Tim., Medan Tembung District, Medan City, North Sumatra. The data collection technique used is by giving questionnaires to students to fill out. The following is a questionnaire sheet given to students to fill out.

No	Statement	Agree	Strongly Agree	Disagree	strongly disagree
1	Science subject is an interesting subject to study.				
2	Science subjects are subjects that are difficult to understand				
3	All the material in science learning is enjoyed by all students				
4	I have studied science the night before tomorrow's lesson				
5	I have prepared science textbooks when the teacher will enter the class				
6	I like science lessons when applied with direct practicum methods				
7	The tasks in science learning are very difficult				
8	I prefer to work on science learning assignments in groups rather than individually				
9	I will only study science at home if told by my parents				
10	I will only study science when I will face the exam				

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

From the research conducted, it was found that 66.67% of SD Muhammadiyah 25 students were quite interested in science subjects, while 33.33% of other students were less interested in science subjects. The research results were obtained from a questionnaire given to students. From these results it was also obtained that 83.33% of students liked science lessons when applied to the practicum method, and 16.67% did not like science lessons when applied to the practicum method. Students prefer to practice rather than listen to the teacher's explanation, because during practice students can directly put into practice the knowledge they have acquired directly. Explanation of subject matter that is carried out continuously will make students bored and not infrequently make students sleepy. 55.56% of students will learn

natural science lessons if asked by their parents, while the other 44.44% will learn science even if they are not told to by their parents.

Parents also include external factors, namely factors that can influence students' interest in learning. Where parents are the closest people in the family, therefore parents are very influential in determining a student's interest in learning. What is given by parents is very influential for the development of the child's soul. In the process of developing interest, support, attention and guidance from the family, especially parents, are needed. 72.22% of students feel more comfortable working on science assignments in groups than individually, 27.78% of other students feel unhappy when working on science assignments in groups compared to individuals. Through association, the direction of his interest will be influenced by his friends, especially his close friends. For students, the association of friends is very influential because it is in the association that they cultivate personality and carry out activities together to reduce the tension and shock they experience.

Interest is the beginning of achieving a goal in a learning process, so after there is interest a person's motivation will appear to take part in a learning process that will be followed by someone seriously from start to finish, so that the desired results will be achieved. Interest can be divided into two, namely personal interest and situational interest. Personal interest, namely the personal characteristics of individuals who are relatively stable. Personal interest is directed at a specific activity or topic (For example interest in sports, science, music, dance, computers, etc.). Whereas situational interest, namely interest that is grown by environmental conditions or factors, for example the role of formal education, information obtained through books, the internet or television (Anggraini et al., 2020). Interest is a person's awareness of something and that encourages the person to focus on that something accompanied by feelings of satisfaction and pleasure [3]. Interest is not innate, but acquired later. Interest is also a form of liking and feeling interested in something or activity, without anyone ordering (Claudya Mellinia, 2022).

Students' interest in subjects can be used as a determinant to determine the level of achievement of student learning achievement competencies. Students who have an interest in being active in learning are expected to achieve optimal learning achievement. Therefore, in the learning process at school, every student should have a high interest in the subject he or she is participating in, in this case the subject of Natural Sciences. Student interest is the main factor that determines the degree

the activeness of student learning, because interest is a trait that is relatively settled in a person. Interest has a big influence on learning activities because with interest someone will do something he is interested in, and vice versa, whereas someone will not do something if there is no motivation. Mursel in his book *Successful Teaching*, provides a useful classification for teachers in providing interest which includes that children have an interest in learning, thus in essence every child is interested in learning, and the teacher himself should try to arouse children's interest in learning. Therefore, as a teacher / teacher, he at least masters the material being taught and is skilled in teaching, namely with teaching and learning strategies, so that students have an interest in learning what is taught by the teacher (Sirait, 2013).

In anticipation of future challenges, education must continue to develop in line with developments in science and technology. Improving the quality of human resources must be carried out in a planned, directed, intensive, effective and efficient manner in the development process. One of these efforts is through education (Pujani et al., 2023). Education has an important role in creating qualified and potential human beings [1]. Education is defined as a

conscious and planned effort to create a learning atmosphere and learning process so that students can actively develop their potential to have religious spiritual strength, self-control, personality, intelligence, noble character, as well as skills needed by himself and society (Rondoni et al., 2022). Education is a system consisting of several components such as the first component, namely input, which consists of students and teachers as educators, the second component is a process that is influenced by the environment and teaching instruments, the third component is the result, namely the impact of interactions between educators with learners and supported by the process (Mata et al., 2022)

4. CONCLUSION

Based on the research conducted, the conclusion that can be given by the author is that there are many factors that influence students' interest in science learning. Among these factors the most important are the teaching methods used by the teacher, the role of parents, and also the influence of schoolmates or peers. In the learning process at school, each student should have a high interest in the subject he or she is participating in, in this case the subject of Natural Sciences. Student interest is the main factor that determines the degree of active student learning, because interest is a trait that is relatively permanent in a person. Mursel in his book *Successful Teaching*, provides a useful classification for teachers in providing interest which includes that children have an interest in learning, thus essentially every child is interested in learning, and the teacher himself should try to arouse children's interest in learning. Therefore as a teacher / the teacher at least masters the material being taught and is skilled in terms of teaching, namely with teaching and learning strategies, so that students have an interest in learning about what is taught by the teacher (Sirait, 2013).

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