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## THEMATIC LEARNING STRATEGY THROUGH AN INTERACTIVE APPROACH IN CLASS 2 SDS IT AL MUNADI MEDAN

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### Abstract

Learning strategy is the process of selecting and arranging learning activities in a learning unit such as sequence, nature of material, scope of material, methods and media that are most suitable for achieving learning competency. There is a need to choose appropriate learning strategies in thematic learning, especially for lower class children. Choosing the right learning strategy can make it easier for students to achieve competencies or learning goals. The aim of this research is to analyze the teacher strategies used in thematic learning in class II SDS IT Al Munadi Medan. The research results show that teachers use learning strategies through an interactive approach. The research was carried out through observation by interviewing the Principal and Class Teacher (class II) of SDS IT Al Munadi Medan. From the results of interviews, teachers use an interactive approach with the aim of stimulating children to think creatively. The inhibiting factor is that children are not good at socializing, therefore they are reluctant to respond to questions and ask questions so teachers must pay more attention which will make children more confident.

**Keywords :** Learning Strategy, Interactive Approach

### Introduction

Learning is the word learning which is given the affixes pe and an, which means learning is an increase in knowledge, the process of remembering, and the process of obtaining facts or skills that can be mastered and used as needed. Learning is the process of student interaction with educators and learning resources in a learning environment. Learning is assistance provided by educators so that the process of acquiring knowledge and knowledge, mastering skills and habits, as well as forming attitudes and beliefs in students can occur. In other words, learning is a process to help students learn well. Learning is also a process of understanding or abstracting meaning, interpretation and understanding of reality in a different way. Learning is a complex activity. Learning is essentially not just conveying messages but is also a professional activity that requires teachers to be able to use basic teaching skills in an integrated manner and create efficient situations (Mashudi, Toha et al, 2007: 3). Therefore, in learning, teachers need to create a conducive atmosphere and learning strategies that attract students' interest. Quality learning really depends on the teacher's creative motivation. Highly motivated learning supported by teaching that is able to facilitate this will lead to successful achievement of learning targets. Learning targets can be measured through changes in students' attitudes and abilities through the learning process. Good learning design, supported by marking facilities, coupled with teacher creativity will make it easier for students to achieve learning targets. Learning and teaching are two concepts that cannot be separated from one another, especially in schools. Current and future global developments make us think about how the education system in our country can produce generations who have knowledge, skills and a strong work ethic. The teacher's function is to select, determine and develop learning methods that enable students to learn easily, quickly, habitually and enjoyably. With this, teachers must use appropriate learning strategies, methods and media so that knowledge and knowledge as well as

the formation of the desired character can be realized. In more detail, I explain the role of teachers as stated by our national education figure, Ki Hajar Dewantara, namely:

1. Ing ngarsa sung tuladha  
This means that a teacher must be a good example. Both in personal contexts and in social environments. Teachers must be people who have integrity so that they can be accepted in their environment.
2. Ing madya mangun karsa  
The teacher is positioned as a motivator. Every movement, action and word of a teacher must be related to efforts to foster student interest and interest in something new and good.
3. Tut wuri handayani  
A teacher is a figure who has a strong personality. Teachers must continuously make a positive contribution to the world of education. Teachers not only provide supervision, but also always monitor students' academic and psychological journey.

In thematic learning, several things are needed that stimulate individuals or groups so that learning objectives can be achieved according to targets. Various kinds of learning techniques, methods and strategies require a lot of thought and analysis to explain them one by one. Effective thematic learning is based on the right strategy. Marzuki (2014: 81) states that regarding the implementation of the 2013 Curriculum as follows: The implementation of curriculum 2013 demands change the mind set of teachers in order to realize a learning process fun and meaningful-full to the lives of learners. Each teacher is required to implement the Thematic-contextual approach and is based on a scientific model of teaching with humility. Quality and meaningful learning in school cannot be separated from the use of the media as an alternative which is assumed to support learning effectively and efficiently improve the quality of learning in primary school. This means that the implementation of the 2013 Curriculum requires a change in the teacher's mindset, in order to create a learning process that is enjoyable and meaningful for the lives of students. Every teacher is required to apply a thematic-contextual approach and is based on a scientific model of teaching with humility. Quality and meaningful learning in schools cannot be separated from the use of the 2013 Curriculum which emphasizes modern pedagogical dimensions in learning, namely using a scientific approach. The scientific approach in learning all subjects includes exploring information, through observation, asking, experimenting, then processing data or information, presenting data or information, followed by analyzing, reasoning then concluding, and creating (Endang Komara, 2014: 91). The success or failure of the teaching and learning process also depends on the learning objectives to be achieved. For this reason, it is necessary to strive for a teaching and learning process in students, namely a change in behavior from not knowing to knowing activities for early grades need to be implemented with appropriate strategies for teaching and learning activities. The author assumes that learning strategies using an interactive approach are appropriate for thematic learning because this approach is appropriate/suitable for the child's developmental stage and the teacher confirms this. At the age of lower class children, they will understand better if they understand something with concrete objects, so give them the opportunity to ask for the solution. Children will easily learn through concepts they learn through direct experience and connecting them with other concepts they already understand.

According to Suterjo, learning must be directed at discussing contextual themes, where learning is emphasized on real life, forming creativity, providing a series of natural activities, because students are individuals who have unique, different potentials and motivations. Thematic learning is highly emphasized because it has advantages, the advantages include; a) learning experiences and activities are very relevant to the level of development and needs of elementary school age children; b) the activities selected in implementing thematic learning depart from the students' interests and needs; c) learning activities are more meaningful and memorable for students; d) help develop students' thinking skills; e) learning activities are presented in a pragmatic manner that is adapted to students' experiences in their environment; and f) can develop students' social skills, such as cooperation, tolerance, communication and responsiveness to other people's ideas. In order for the objectives of the learning process to be achieved as desired, the teacher must first really understand and comprehend the thematic learning model, understand how to apply the thematic learning model, understand the concepts of thematic, so that in the application there are no mistakes that affect the output." results" for students. In order for teaching and learning activities to run effectively and efficiently teachers need to use the right strategies and approaches. And in this research the teacher used an interactive approach in teaching and learning activities in his class. In general, the task of a teacher is to educate and teach, so the teacher hopes that what is taught will reach his students so that understanding and changes in behavior occur. Another thing we obtained through interviews is that teachers must really master the class so that the strategies used work as desired. So that the strategy does not move away from the targets to be achieved, more understanding is needed. This understanding begins with the stimulus for each individual to encourage or motivate so that they provide a response in thematic learning activities.

## Research Methodology

This research is descriptive research with a qualitative approach. Using the interview technique, the source person was the class teacher directly, namely the class 2 teacher in the name of Mrs. Muherni Tambusai S.Pd. During the interview process, we as interviewers asked several questions regarding Thematic Learning Strategies Through an Interactive Approach. This action is of course to find out whether the strategies used by the teacher influence student development in learning. According to Sugiyono (2016:9) the qualitative descriptive method is a research method based on the philosophy of postpositivism used to research the conditions of natural objects (as opposed to experiments) where the researcher is the key instrument. Data collection techniques are carried out using triangulation (combination), data analysis. is inductive/qualitative, and the results of qualitative research emphasize meaning rather than generalization. Qualitative descriptive research aims to describe, depict, explain, explain and answer in more detail the problems to be studied by studying as closely as possible an individual, a group or an event. In qualitative research, humans are the research instrument and the written results are in the form of words or statements that correspond to the actual situation. This research was conducted at the SDS IT Al Munadi School, Medan. The research implementation time will be May 9 2024. The documentation carried out in this research is by taking pictures in the form of photos, and recording the results of interviews with related informants using video and audio. The results of interviews and observations are combined into a report like this. To obtain a complete and detailed statement regarding the scope of the problem to be researched, several specific problem formulations were created as follows: (a) How is the thematic learning strategy planned through an interactive approach at SDS IT Al Munadi Medan? (b) How is the thematic learning strategy implemented at SDS IT Al Munadi Medan? (c) Are there any obstacles to the thematic learning strategy through an interactive approach at SDS IT Al Munadi Medan? Researchers obtained a lot of data regarding learning strategies through an interactive approach. This strategy can train children to think creatively so that various questions will arise in children's minds. because teachers stimulate children to ask questions, children become confident in asking questions and do not hesitate to express opinions.

## Result & Discussion

Learning strategy is an educator's effort to mobilize students to want to carry out learning activities. Learning strategy is not a simple activity, every step of learning is accompanied by mobilizing all abilities to achieve learning goals. Basically learning with a model approach has advantages. Students can actively participate in the learning presented, foster an inquiry attitude, support students' problem solving abilities, and provide a vehicle for interaction between students and with teachers, and the material studied can reach a level of ability that lasts longer because students are involved in the process of discovering it. Application of the Interactive Learning Model Before teaching or learning is carried out, a teacher must make a learning implementation plan (RPP), determine the concept of the material to be taught to students, look for and formulate problems that are in accordance with that concept, and plan appropriate or appropriate learning strategies. The interactive approach in general is a method that focuses on questions asked by students where the teacher not only plays a role in general learning but also actively participates in the students' mental and physical development. According to Sudjana and Rivai, quoted by Arsyad in their book entitled Learning Media, the benefits of interactive learning strategies include:

1. Learning will attract more students' attention so that it can foster motivation to learn
2. Learning materials will be clearer so that students can better understand them
3. Teaching strategies will be more varied and less boring
4. Students can do more learning activities.

The benefits of interactive learning strategies according to Asep Saripudin are as follows:

1. Helping students increase understanding in the learning process and improve understanding
2. The material presented becomes clearer, not verbalistic in nature
3. Help explain the material
4. Providing student motivation in learning
5. Providing students with a more interesting or meaningful learning experience.

Meanwhile, Ahmad Sabari, quoted by Abdul Majid in his book Learning Strategies, explains the conditions that a teacher must pay attention to when using interactive learning strategies, namely as follows:

1. The learning strategies used must be able to arouse students' motivation, interest or passion for learning
2. The learning strategies used can stimulate students' desire to learn further, such as interacting with teachers and other students
3. Learning strategies must be able to provide opportunities for students to provide responses to the material presented

4. Learning strategies must be able to guarantee the development of students' personality activities
5. The learning strategies used must be able to educate students in self-study techniques and how to acquire knowledge through personal effort
6. The strategies used must be able to instill and develop students' values and attitudes in everyday life.

The strategies used really influence student learning outcomes so teachers really have to use the right strategies in learning activities, especially in thematic learning in lower grades. Homeroom teacher, class II at SDS IT Al Munadi Medan uses a Thematic Learning Strategy through an Interactive Approach, in using an interactive approach the teacher aims to stimulate children to think creatively, students will dare to ask questions about learning that they do not understand. When students ask questions indirectly, the child listens to what the teacher explains. It can be said that it is difficult to make children in lower grades want to ask questions, therefore teachers must be able to stimulate children so that the desired goals can be achieved. The 2nd grade teacher at SDS IT Al Munadi Medan has a way to encourage children to dare to express their opinions, for example in mathematics lessons when the teacher is explaining on the blackboard the teacher deliberately writes the wrong answer, this action will stimulate the child to ask questions about the error. Success in learning strategies is a success in a teaching and learning process, which is basically a positive change during and after the teaching and learning process is implemented. We can see the success of teaching and learning in the active involvement of students during the learning process. Success in teaching is not only seen from the learning outcomes achieved by students, but also seen from the perspective of the students' learning process. Because the results of learning are the implications of the learning process which has previously been planned for how to implement it in the learning planning program contained in the learning objectives to be achieved as the benchmark. According to Peale, the goal of critical thinking skills is to bring a person to achieve success and success. People who think Kirits know exactly what they want, they must achieve it with focused certainty and unyielding effort. In them there is enthusiasm, a spirit that persists in every difficult situation that ever doubts. Critical thinking skills help a person to focus his attention on the good things in life and enable him to give dominant attention to what is right about himself, others and the world. In lower grade thematic learning, of course the teacher will use concrete media, one of which is pictures. It is not uncommon for students' books to contain pictures of each material. In this observation, we found that teachers often make teaching materials in the form of power points before teaching and learning activities take place. This method certainly has a big influence on the learning atmosphere felt by the child, when the teacher shows a picture or video the child will focus on that point.

Not all students are suitable for the strategies that teachers use, so teachers must know the strengths and weaknesses of their students. If there are students who do not participate in the interactive, we as teachers should not put them down in front of many people, of course the teacher must provide motivation and highlight the abilities that the students like. As long as this is positive and does not deviate from the thematic content, for example if one of the students is poor in mathematics but is very good at drawing, this should be appreciated. However, provided that they do not abandon the lessons they have mastered, students must still be able to do so, even if not perfectly. The use of learning activities through an interactive approach is of great value for student teaching, because:

1. Students look for their own experiences and experience it themselves
2. Doing it yourself will develop all aspects of the student's personality integrally
3. Foster harmonious cooperation among students
4. Students work according to their own interests and abilities
5. Fostering reasonable classroom discipline and a democratic learning atmosphere
6. Strengthen the relationship between school and community, and the relationship between parents and teachers
7. Teaching is carried out realistically and concretely so as to develop understanding and critical thinking and avoid being verbalistic
8. Teaching in schools becomes as alive as activities in life in society.

Thematic has several subject contents, namely Pancasila and Citizenship Education (PPKN), Indonesian Language, Mathematics, Arts, Culture and Crafts (SBdP), Physical Education and Sports (PJOK). In some of these contents, there is one that is very minimal in the interactive approach, namely the Arts, Culture and Crafts (SBdP) subject, because in this subject the learning is more often practical so the teacher decides not to use an interactive approach in the Arts, Culture and Crafts (SBdP) subject. Referring to the model used, during the process of teaching and learning activities students can focus their attention on the subject matter that will be explained. Students gain experience that can form strong memories, students avoid mistakes in drawing conclusions, questions that arise can be answered by students themselves during the evaluation, if there are doubts students can ask the

teacher directly, mistakes that occur from the results of the lecture can be improved because there is direct interaction between teachers and students in the teaching and learning process. The KKM at the SDS IT Al Munadi Medan school is 65, for low class students it could be said that it is not easy to get that score, so teachers take scores not only from knowledge but also from attitudes, social and religious attitudes. If the knowledge value is very low for a higher class level, the teacher will carry out remedial measures. If it is still lacking, the teacher will hold teaching and learning activities outside of class hours or what is usually called an additional class. Incidents like the following are not uncommon in schools out there, so as a teacher you must always carry out an evaluation before the class ends, but if everything has been done but there are still students who are left behind, the possibility of the error lies with the students themselves so the teacher must provide further guidance verbally and in writing. In order to maximize learning outcomes, the stages of learning improvement planning are as follows:

1. Create a written learning improvement plan containing steps for implementing learning so that students can easily follow the learning.
2. Prepare an observation sheet which is the result of an agreement between the researcher and colleagues who act as observers.
3. Create group worksheets to determine the level of student learning success.
4. Describe the learning values in the formulation of Pancasila using coherent sentences
5. Hold questions and answers regarding matters related to the material.
6. Students work on posttest questions
7. Together, students draw conclusions about learning outcomes

## Conclusion

Based on the interviews conducted by researchers, it can be concluded that the Analysis of Learning Strategies through the Interactive Approach for class 2 SDS IT Al Munadi Medan. Teachers must master the class so that teaching and learning activities take place in accordance with the learning strategies applied. Class 2 at SDS IT Al Munadi Medan has 30 students. These 30 students of course have different characteristics and it is the teacher's homework to see how these 30 students can capture the material presented by the teacher. It is important to remember that a teacher's job is not only to teach but also to educate and guide students so that they become better than before. Strategies, media and methods are provisions for teachers in their classes so that the desired goals can be achieved and in accordance with expectations. In thematic learning in class 2 of SDS IT Al Munadi Medan, the SBdP subject is the one that has the minimum interactive approach. A lesson that has a lot of theory that is suitable for an interactive approach is Mathematics. Approaches and methods are one aspect of the important components in the learning system. No matter how good the learning materials that have been prepared or planned are, if there is no appropriate and good approach, method and strategy then the learning and teaching process can reap failure, because with the teacher approach process we know the character of each individual student so we can easily determine what learning model is suitable for students so that it is easy for students to understand and accept the material delivered by the teacher. Therefore, the ability to apply approaches and strategies is very crucial. The importance of approaches and strategies in the learning process in education means that educators are required to be professional in developing these approaches and strategies. Educators must also know the advantages and disadvantages of each approach model and strategies that will be used and determining the most appropriate ones so that students can be more active and critical in the learning process and most importantly in learning strategies with this approach model, what is the goal in education can be achieved well. And based on the results of the research and discussion, it can be concluded that the implementation of the thematic learning model strategy at SDS IT Al Munadi Medan has gone well, but there needs to be improvements and intensive training as well as continuous coaching for teachers so that they can increase their competence, knowledge and skills in carry out learning innovations in the classroom. Empowerment of school infrastructure must be further improved by providing the widest possible access to both teachers and students so that schools become living laboratories in improving the quality of learning for students at school.

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