

Follow The Line Method in Learning to Write Arabic Letters for Early Childhood at PAUD Ummul Habibah, Hamparan Perak District

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ABSTRACT

Mothers have the responsibility to educate and guide their children in the learning process. Writing the Qur'an is a very important skill for children to have. One of the learning processes that combines learning the Qur'an and children's psychomotor activities in the follow the line method. This study aims to determine how the process of applying the Qur'an writing method in fostering closeness between mothers and children. This study uses a qualitative method with a case study approach. Data were obtained through periodic observation, interviews, and documentation from three pairs of mother and child participants. The research was selected through a purposive sampling method. The criteria for research subjects were six-year-old children who had difficulty writing the Qur'an and lacked closeness with their mothers. The results of this study are: The application of the Qur'an writing method follow the line to increase closeness between mothers and children was successful, closeness with mothers was well established through the learning process of writing the Qur'an follow the line together, children's ability to write the Qur'an has increased and developed. The conclusion is that the Qur'an writing method follow the line can be used to improve the psychological development of mothers and children.

Keywords: *Follow the Line Method, Writing Learning, Early Childhood Education*

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1. INTRODUCTION

Children are a mandate and gift from Allah SWT that we must care for with love. Childhood is the golden age of early childhood or often called the golden age (Talango, 2020). Emerson & Souza (in RD Utami et al., 2023) argue that "children

are strategic successors for national struggle goals", meaning they have the skills and characteristics needed to ensure the continued existence of a country. According to Mansur (in Munisa et al., 2024) early childhood is a group of children who are in a unique growth and development process. They have a special growth and development pattern according to their level of growth and development. According to Glen & Dolman (in R Nofianti, 2021) experts in the development of child abilities, state that the most rapid development of human brain growth occurs at the age of 0-7 years.

Early childhood is the age of 5 or 6 years is called the pre-school age (J. W. Santrock, 2011). During this period, children need the main role of the mother as a place to learn and play (J. W. Santrock, 2011). According to Rozana & Bantali (2020) playing is one of the educational facilities that has great benefits for children's development. According to Sukirman (in R, Widya, 2022) stated that along with the development of the era, the method of playing in the world of children has progressed very rapidly. Attention and support for learning from especially a mother. Joint learning activities can be done through drawing and writing which are related to the development of fine motor, cognitive, and affective activities in early childhood (Dian Adriana, 2011).

One of the learning processes that combines learning the Qur'an and early childhood psychomotor activities is the follow the line method. This is done by writing and thickening lines or dots on the letters of the Qur'an (Irawan, 2013). Mothers can contribute to learning the Qur'an in order to instill positive religious values in early childhood. The importance of education in writing the Qur'an from an early age is more effective and easy to get used to so that it can become a good character in the future (Nurma & Purnama, 2022).

The main education for early childhood is at home with the mother in the family environment (Fatmasari & Nurhayati, 2020). Mothers have the responsibility to educate and guide children in achieving goals and stages in the

learning process (Ekosiswoyo et al., 2019). Providing knowledge is not only done by teachers but also by mothers who are responsible for attitudes to be good role models and have independence in children (Hurlock, 1973).

PAUD Ummul Habibah is located in Hamparan Perak District, Deli Serdang Regency, an Islamic foundation for early childhood based on the Qur'an. This private school was founded in 2017 and focuses on learning Islamic education. In addition to academics, they are also taught to learn to recite and memorize short letters of Juz Amma in the Qur'an. Teaching and learning activities are carried out from 07.30-12.00 WIB.

The majority of mothers or parents of children at PAUD Ummul Habibah are workers, but some are also housewives. Most mothers choose PAUD Ummul Habibah as their child's education because it covers both academic and Islamic learning. Moreover, the children's school hours from morning to afternoon coincide with the mother's work schedule so that it does not interfere with the mother's work activities.

However, the process of learning the Qur'an at PAUD Ummul Habibah is not yet optimal. There are twelve children in one class B1, some of whom are already able and some who still have difficulty in writing hijaiyyah letters. This is influenced by several factors, namely the lack of learning at school and at home not being given additional materials by the mother because she is focused on working. At home, they are only given facilities to participate in reading lessons.

The closeness of a mother to a child is an affectionate bond between two individuals with a strong intensity. The mother as the first caregiver plays a very important role in forming closeness with the child because she can provide protection especially when the child feels sick, afraid, or threatened. The role and responsibility as a mother can teach many things in behaving correctly and in creating a good Islamic character.

Based on observations carried out in October 2024 at PAUD Ummul Habibah, Hamparan Perak District, it was seen that the learning process did not appear to be optimal. There were cases of 3 children experiencing difficulty in writing hijaiyyah letters. Overall, the problems that arise include difficulty holding a pencil correctly, the need for supervision when writing hijaiyyah letters, and thickening Arabic numerals. Children need to be given examples and directions first because they are often confused and rushed because they want to finish quickly.

Based on these observations, the researcher is interested in the phenomenon that occurs at PAUD Ummul Habibah, Hamparan Perak District. This school is an Islamic-based school and focuses on learning the Qur'an. However, there are several children who have difficulty in writing the Qur'an, and these children have problems in closeness to their mothers. This prompted the researcher to observe the implementation of the follow the line method at PAUD Ummul Habibah, Hamparan Perak District along with the results and benefits that will be obtained.

2. METHODS

Research on the phenomenon of closeness between mothers and children uses a qualitative research type with a case study approach. The closeness of mothers to early childhood children who have difficulty writing the Qur'an is a phenomenon that occurs at PAUD Ummul Habibah, Kelambir V Village, Hamparan Perak District. There are several early childhood children who have difficulty writing the Qur'an. Information from the accompanying teacher at the school, there are three of each child's mother who works, so they do not have enough time with their children.

The researcher used interview, observation, and documentation methods as data collection techniques. The subjects of the study were three children and their mothers. The subjects in this study were selected based on predetermined criteria. This study used a purposive sampling method, namely determining the criteria

for six-year-old children who had difficulty writing the Qur'an and had limited time to relate to their mothers.

3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the results of research that has been conducted on the application of the method of writing the Qur'an follow the line to increase the closeness of mothers with children at PAUD Ummul Habibah, it shows that it is still at the stage of learning at home and the involvement of mothers in the learning process of early childhood and realizing the importance of learning together by uniting emotional closeness and cooperation between mothers and children.

The closeness of the mother to the child is created from an early age to form a good and Islamic character, especially in the learning process related to psychological development of abilities and independence (Amini, 2015). Mothers are very influential in the learning process in children to achieve learning goals that can provide a sense of security and comfort when close to the mother (Bowlby, 1982). The role of parents, especially mothers, is very important for early childhood. Relying on Islamic foundation schools alone is not enough to meet the needs of the learning process, both academic and Islamic. The learning process from the accompanying teacher also requires closeness skills that are created especially from the mother so that they can guide and supervise the learning process in children (Komang Inten Sanjiwani & Didith Pramunditya Ambara, 2022).

Mothers provide facilities and positive activities for children with the aim of providing encouragement to develop themselves and provide full support to children. Other skills that can be applied in the psychomotor domain to achieve the learning process in the difficulty of writing the Qur'an in children through skills that are oriented using learning methods with movement and emphasizing physical reactions and hand skills. Difficulty writing that occurs in early childhood

which causes a lack of closeness to the mother can affect cognitive, social emotional, and psychomotor development in children who have not developed optimally.

The ability to write the Qur'an can be influenced by the guidance and direction given to children, especially from mothers, to get used to the early childhood learning process so that they have good fine motor development (Hewi et al., 2020). Based on data obtained from interviews with the three mothers of children, the subjects had the habit of playing gadgets, Lego, and being spoiled by their mothers so that learning activities at home could not run well. Mothers have less time to be together. So that children get less affection, especially in the learning process in the writing difficulties they experience.

Mothers provide the right example to children regarding the understanding of how to think, behave, and behave correctly in the family environment and around them. Habits that are carried out and exemplified directly by parents will have a big effect on children, so children will follow what they have seen and will be recorded in their minds. The method that has a big influence in educating the closeness of mother and child is the method of giving examples and role models (Abu Ahmadi & Uhbiyati, 1991). Mothers become good role models for children in getting used to positive activities.

Good habits will create good and obedient characters for early childhood (Hikmatullah & Teguh, 2020). Especially in terms of education with limited time owned by mothers, they can do habits from an early age. Children can be trained by educating and doing activities together such as studying which is one of the ways to give the most impression (Fatmasari & Nurhayati, 2020). Parents should realize that children need to be given suitable habits at home with the development of the soul and motor skills of early childhood (Hikmatullah & Teguh, 2020). This can form an attitude of closeness between mother and child slowly which will shape character and personality.

When a child makes a mistake, either intentionally or unintentionally, the mother should not feel bored with the incident. An effective method in forming faith in children, especially morals, ethics, mentality, and socially, is by giving advice and direction gently to early childhood (Rahmi & Chairul, 2021). Mothers want their children to grow up with good personalities, be pious and pious, and have noble character. Providing encouragement in the form of advice when children feel difficult or make mistakes that require help is very important to be given direction and guidance directly from the mother. This is intended so that children have a gentle heart that is steadfast in faith. As exemplified by Luqman Al-Hakim as stated in the Qur'an, Surah Luqman verses 12-18 which means:

"And indeed We have given wisdom to Luqman, namely: "Be grateful to Allah. And whoever is grateful (to Allah), then indeed he is grateful for himself; and whoever is not grateful, then indeed Allah is Rich, Most Praiseworthy." And (remember) when Luqman said to his son, when he was giving him a lesson: "O my son, do not associate partners with Allah, indeed to associate partners with (Allah) is truly great injustice." And We commanded man (to do good) to his two parents; his mother had conceived him in a state of increasing weakness, and weaned him in two years. Give thanks to Me and to your two parents, to Me alone is your return. And if both of them force you to associate with Me something that you have no knowledge of, then do not follow either of them, and associate with both of them in the world well, and follow the path of those who return to Me, then only to Me will your return be, then I will tell you what what you have done. (Luqman said): "O my son, indeed, if there is (an action) as heavy as a mustard seed, and is in a stone or in the sky or in the earth, Allah will surely bring it (recompense it). Verily Allah is Subtle, All-Knowing. O my son , establish prayer and command (humans) to do good and prevent (them) from doing evil and be patient with what befalls you. Indeed, these are among the things which is required (by Allah). And do not turn your face away from people (because of

pride) and do not walk on the face of the earth arrogantly. Indeed, Allah does not like those who are arrogant and boastful" (QS. Luqman (31): 12. -18).

If the closeness of the mother and the child at an early age is an important thing related to the personality and behavior of the child. For some children, closeness means a sensitive influence on what has been given by the mother who plays an important role or is the main caregiver to respond to the needs of early age children (Santrock, 2011). The goal is so that the child does not lose the main role of a mother. The child is also able to create a hierarchy of closeness with the mother and does not simply eliminate closeness with the mother.

4. CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the study conducted on the Application of the Follow The Line Quran Writing Method to Increase the Closeness of Mothers with Early Childhood, it can be concluded that there are reasons why children have difficulty writing the Quran. The following is a summary of the results of this study, namely:

1. The application of the follow the line method in increasing the closeness of mothers with early childhood children can be carried out well and successfully implemented using Juz amma until the completion of Juz 30. Basically, the application of the follow the line method can increase the closeness between mothers and early childhood children. Providing positive activities that are carried out simultaneously makes children accustomed to involving their mothers in every matter and are able to express what they feel, especially regarding the difficulties they experience. The obstacle in implementing the follow the line method to increase the closeness of mothers with children is the limited time to be consistent when studying with mothers who have work demands. The process of learning to write the Qur'an for children who are accompanied by each mother is less patient due to the lack of time and must adjust to the situation and conditions. Creating joint learning

activities requires a lot of time so that a lot of preparation is needed so that the child's work and study schedules are effective and do not interfere with each other.

2. The results and benefits for the development of closeness between mother and child in improving children's ability to write the Qur'an are developments and improvements. Basically, children who initially still had difficulty and felt stiff when holding a pencil became accustomed to it because they did it often. The benefits for mothers and children are having good closeness because they spend time doing activities together. Children become interactive and there is good communication between mother and child. Able to work together productively and create high spirits. Children feel loved and cared for because they have done positive activities and helped each other when children feel difficult.

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