ABSTRACT

"Reviving a Love for Reading: Utilizing Interactive Multimedia Tools to Engage Reluctant Readers in an Era of Digital Distraction"

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Kemendikbudristek introduced the Merdeka Belajar Kampus Merdeka (MBKM) initiative in 2020. The MBKM program is a set of required classes designed to enhance students teaching skills. SDK Yos Sudarso Kepanjen hosted this MBKM for three months, from August 1st to December 31st, 2023. There are 94 students enrolled in the MBKM Program from grades 1 through 6, 43 of whom are female and 51 of whom are male. This MBKM program's objectives are to train and enhance teacher competences by preparing students for job opportunities and giving them hands-on experience in the classroom.

Students have a number of challenges in the implementation of the teaching and nonteaching activities that take place throughout this PKL period. These activities last for three months. These obstacles include declining reading engagement among children, individual inattention, and also lack of reading materials particularly when learning English. Following that, we carried out an assessment and further instruction with the Pamong teacher. As an Intern we offer many ways to get over these challenges by presenting game-based learning platforms that teachers may utilize to make and share engaging and dynamic lesson plans but also making reading enjoyable and interactive strengthens comprehension by reading the classic tale "Beauty and the Beast" in class out loud, based on the PKL implementation at SDK Yos Sudarso. Both platforms offer a range of customizable game templates, such as word-search, crossword, and matching that can be chosen to meet specific learning objectives. Teachers can make their own games from beginning using Educa-play and Word-wall in addition to the prepared game templates. Teachers can enhance the game's interactivity and interest by adding text, graphics, and audio.

In addition, through employing PKL activities, Intern teacher can become more successful at applying their knowledge and skills they have learned in lectures to classroom instruction. Along with mastering their subject and the educational learning approach, Intern can also build their personalities as teachers and comprehend the characteristics of other students.

Key words: Multimedia teaching tools, Reading Comprehension, Reading Engagement, Reading Fluency, Reading motivation.