

Efforts to Improve Environmental Care Attitudes in Elementary School Students

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Abstract – This article aims to outline the idea of the Environmental Care program, describes the prediction of the success of the Environmental Care program, and describes the parties that can help in the Environmental Care program. The approach used in this paper is descriptive qualitative based on literature review and observation. Primary data includes observational data. Secondary data includes: (1) books relevant to the topic of writing, (2) scientific papers, (3) articles from the internet, and (4) research results. The data collection is secondary data in the form of relevant theories were obtained by the literature review method. The data obtained were analyzed descriptively qualitatively. The preparation of this paper has gone through systematic steps, so that the results of a complete and structured study are obtained. The steps taken in writing this paper are: (1) finding and formulating problems, (2) finding and selecting relevant literature sources, (3) analyzing data to answer problems, (4) formulating alternatives solving problems, (5) drawing conclusions and recommending suggestions, and (6) compiling written papers. In applying the Environmental Care program, several stages are needed, namely providing an understanding of waste, categorizing waste and problems in waste, making observations, making garbage sorting games, decorating trash cans that have been categorized and finally observing student behavior in disposing of garbage. and (6) compiling written papers. In applying the Environmental Care program, several stages are needed, namely providing an understanding of waste, categorizing waste and problems in waste, making observations, making garbage sorting games, decorating trash cans that have been categorized and finally observing student behavior in disposing of garbage. and (6) compiling written papers. In applying the Environmental Care program, several stages are needed, namely providing an understanding of waste, categorizing waste and problems in waste, making observations, making garbage sorting games, decorating trash cans that have been categorized and finally observing student behavior in disposing of garbage.

Keywords – *Environment, Garbage, Students, Elementary School, Caring Attitude.*

I. INTRODUCTION

Schools require students to always care about the school environment. This attitude must be applied in schools in order to make the school environment healthy. In addition, with this attitude, students can avoid disease. The attitude of caring for the environment is reflected in many ways, one of which is by managing waste. By managing waste, it can reduce the accumulation of waste in schools. Proper waste management can make school residents free from air pollution. In addition, if schools manage waste properly it will avoid flooding.

On the other hand, students who do not take care of the environment properly will have some negative impacts. First, it causes the school environment to be unhealthy. This happens because students do not maintain cleanliness so that germs accumulate because they are dirty. Second, they are susceptible to disease, students who litter and are not managed properly can become a breeding ground for disease. Third, students dispose of waste that is not according to its type, so that waste is difficult to manage. Fourth, because students do not know how to manage waste properly, it causes an unpleasant odor. Especially if the waste is mixed between organic and inorganic waste. Fifth, the occurrence of floods, flood disasters can be caused because a lot

of garbage is thrown into the river.

However, in reality, there are still many students who do not understand the difference between organic and inorganic waste, which causes the grouping of waste to be unresolved. Garbage that should be used and separated is not handled properly (Marliani, 2015). Many school residents do not care about the mixed garbage. School residents who don't care about garbage cause piles of garbage in landfills. The habit of littering by school residents is caused by a lack of knowledge about clean living.

Data in the field shows that 70-80% of waste in Indonesia is still mixed between organic and inorganic waste. This is because the school community does not care about the importance of sorting out waste. The Minister of Environment and Forestry revealed that Indonesia's waste stockpile reached 67.8 million tons in 2020. Of this pile of waste, 70% is plastic waste. Indonesia's plastic waste reaches 66 million per year. According to 2015 data from the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, the management of types of waste that end up in TPA is 69%, recycled is 7%, and illegal dumping is 24% (Wahyudi, 2021).

Therefore, the author proposes to familiarize elementary school students to take part in the Environmental Care Program as an effort to increase environmental care attitudes in waste management. The author wants to convey creative ideas about the Environmental Care program in elementary school educational institutions to avoid garbage behavior.

The purposes of this paper are: (1) to describe the idea of an environmental care program (2) to describe the prediction of the success of the environmental care program (3) to describe the parties who can assist in the environmental care program.

II. METHOD

The approach used in this paper is descriptive qualitative based on literature review and observation. Primary data includes observational data. Secondary data includes: (1) books relevant to the topic of writing, (2) scientific papers, (3) articles from the internet, and (4) research results. The data collection is secondary data in the form of relevant theories were obtained by the literature review method. The data obtained were analyzed descriptively qualitatively. The preparation of this paper has gone through systematic steps, so that the results of a complete and structured study are obtained. The steps taken in writing this paper are: (1) finding and formulating problems, (2) finding and selecting relevant literature sources, (3) analyzing data to answer problems, (4) formulating alternatives solving problems,

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1. Students' Trash Habits

Garbage is still a human problem that cannot be separated from daily activities (Istiqamah, Nim, Martoyo, Pardi, & Ab, 2019). Waste is divided into organic and inorganic waste (Taufiq & Maulana, 2015). One of the current conditions in elementary schools is that many students do not realize the importance of keeping the environment clean. Currently, the problem that is still difficult to handle is a lot of waste mixed between organic and inorganic. This can cause pollution to the environment. The lack of awareness of school residents towards waste is the main factor in the accumulation of waste. Garbage that continues to grow without proper handling also causes unpleasant odors in the school environment. It also causes soil pollution due to non-biodegradable waste.

3.2. Old Ideas

To overcome the problem of students' habits of disposing of waste in an inappropriate manner, many ideas have been implemented. First, the video trash can model (Arifian & Fauzie, 2017). Second, the program for children who care about the environment (Afniyanti, 2018). Third, waste management in elementary schools (Puspasari, Musniati, & Zazhilla 2021). Fourth, the sorting of waste through the simulation method (Lestari, Purnama, Safitri, & Koto, 2020). Fifth, socialization of waste sorting (Ariyanti & Nufiansyah, 2021). Sixth, patterned trash cans (Purnomo, Herawati, & Amri, 2017). Seventh, the waste bank movement (Mappasere & Husein, 2019). Eighth, socialization and application of waste sorting (Mulya, Maslina, and Marlina, 2020). Ninth, plastic excise tax collection (Rahmi & Selvi). Tenth, waste sorting education (Ratnasari, Asharhani, Sari, Hale, & Pratiwi 2019). Eleventh, Health education (Sariana, 2018). Finally, the use of Charming Dustbin and Takakura Basket (Setiawan & Arifendi, 2016).

There are several weaknesses of the old ideas that have been applied in overcoming the waste problem. Among them is that it is difficult if students do not pay attention to the video in the video bin that is displayed. If students do not pay close attention it

will be difficult to understand. In addition, the implementation of the program must of course be done repeatedly in order to be successful. Furthermore, it is difficult if students do not understand the difference between types of waste. Another weakness is the lack of hygiene facilities in schools. The factor of parents not caring in implementing waste sorting for children. Finally, to develop a program, requires a relatively high cost.

3.3. New Ideas to Offer

To increase students' awareness of environmental care, Environmental Care can be done. Environmental Care is an environmental care activity carried out for elementary school students in maintaining environmental cleanliness, especially in managing waste. This activity is carried out for one day. The purpose of holding Environmental Care is to improve the discipline of elementary school students in managing waste properly and correctly. In addition, Environmental Care can foster an attitude of loving the environment. Environmental Care is held in a school environment accompanied by teachers and facilitators carried out by students.

3.4. How Far The Problem Can Be Fixed

The habit of students disposing of garbage that is not according to its type is a fundamental problem for elementary schools. These bad student habits can be overcome through the Environmental Care Program, which is an environmental care program carried out for elementary school students in maintaining environmental cleanliness. With this program, it is hoped that the level of discipline of elementary school children in disposing of waste according to its type will increase. This will increase the attitude of love for the environment of elementary school children in disposing of waste according to its type.

3.5. Parties Who Can Help

The parties that can assist the Environmental Care Program are: (1) Principal. The principal has an important role in this regard, because the principal can support and coordinate the implementation of the Environmental Care program. (2) Teacher. Teachers have an important element in supporting the success of the Environmental Care program. In order for students to be enthusiastic in implementing this program, the teacher plays a role in motivating students. (3) Students. Students have a role in the Environmental Care program to apply the program at school or at home. (4) Parents are the supporting elements of ideas that have an important role in the Environmental Care program. Parents help the teacher's role to support children in implementing the Environmental Care program at home.

3.6. Strategic Measures

The strategic steps are as follows:

1. Teachers and facilitators provide information to students regarding waste, types of waste, waste accumulation problems, and integrated waste management processes.
2. Students observe the sorting of waste in groups in the school environment and then analyze whether the residents at the school are appropriate in disposing of waste according to its type.
3. Students are asked to play a game of separating waste and classifying it according to its type, in this game the facilitator provides various types of waste such as paper, leaves, and plastic.
4. The facilitator also provides a trash can that says organic and inorganic, then students are asked to put garbage according to its type in the trash can. In addition to writing, trash cans are also decorated with pictures that can attract students to understand the different types of waste.
5. The facilitator places a decorated trash can in front of each class.
6. Seeing student changes in taking out the trash.

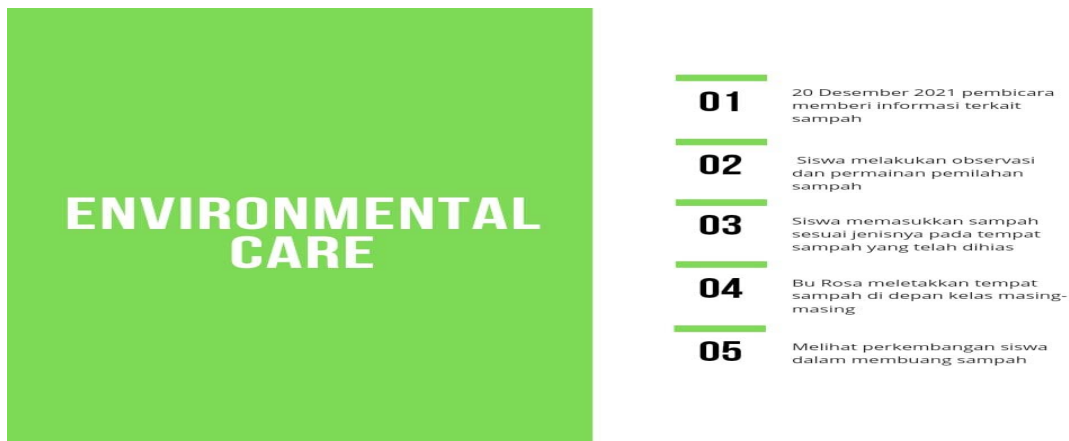


Fig. 1 step environmental care program



Fig. 2 garbage sorting posters

IV. CONCLUSION

Environmental Care is an environmental care activity carried out for elementary school students in maintaining environmental cleanliness, especially in managing waste. This activity is carried out for one day. The purpose of holding Environmental Care is to improve the discipline of elementary school students in managing waste properly and correctly. In addition, Environmental Care can also foster students' love for the environment in managing waste.

Steps for implementing Environmental Care for elementary school students. First, the facilitator provides information to students regarding waste, types of waste, problems with waste accumulation, and the integrated waste management process. Second, students observe and analyze the sorting of waste in groups in the school environment. Third, students play a game of separating garbage and putting it in according to its type. Fourth, the facilitator provides trash cans that are labeled organic and inorganic, then students are asked to put garbage according to its type in the trash can. Fifth, the facilitator places a decorated trash can in front of each class. Sixth, look at the changes in students in disposing of garbage.

The parties involved in the Environmental Care program. First, school principals have an important role in supporting coordination regarding the implementation of the Environmental Care program. Second, the teacher's role is to motivate students. Third, students play a role in applying the program at school or at home. Fourth, parents help the role of teachers to support children in implementing Environmental Care programs at home.

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