

THE USED DIGITAL STORYTELLING TO INCREASE VOCABULARIES FOR YOUNG LEARNERS

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to investigate the effectiveness of using digital storytelling in improving vocabulary mastery among fifth-grade students at SD Negeri 1 Sambiroto. Grounded in the principles of the Kurikulum Merdeka, which emphasizes contextual and student-centered learning, digital storytelling was used as an innovative medium integrating visual, auditory, and narrative elements. The study applied a pre-experimental design (one-group pretest-posttest) involving 30 students. Results showed a significant increase in students' vocabulary scores from a pretest average of 61.30 to a posttest average of 80.87. Paired sample t-test analysis confirmed the significance of the gain. Findings indicate that digital storytelling is an effective and engaging tool for vocabulary development among young learners and aligns with the Kurikulum Merdeka's pedagogical goals.

Keywords: *digital storytelling, vocabulary mastery, young learners, Kurikulum Merdeka, English learning*

BACKGROUND AND LITERATURE REVIEW

Vocabulary is the foundation of all language skills—listening, speaking, reading, and writing. For young learners, vocabulary acquisition is especially critical as it serves as a