

**THE INFLUENCE OF TOTAL PHYSICAL RESPONSE ON CHILDREN'S
LISTENING SKILL AND ARABIC VOCABULARY MASTERY
(QUASI-EXPERIMENTAL STUDY ON GROUP B KINDERGARTEN
RA AL-MUQODDASAH JAGABAYA BANJARAN BANDUNG ACADEMIC YEAR
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ABSTRACT

Early childhood period is golden age to develop their competence and knowledge including Arabic acquisition. Since their curiosity and receptive ability are at higher level, children can learn Arabic effortlessly. Language is both a gift and a medium for human communication. In addition language differentiates human from animal. Language enables humans to get to know ; themselves; among their peers; nature; knowledge and moral (religion) (Yusuf. 2009:179). Alloh SWT states in surat Yusuf : 2

“ إِنَّا أَنْزَلْنَاهُ قُرْآنًا عَرَبِيًّا لَعَلَّكُمْ تَعْقِلُونَ ”

“We actually create the form of the Qur'an in Arabic, that you may understand (Yusuf:2). This implies that moslems should learn Arabic since their childhood to develop their competence in comprehending and implementing Alquran content. Listening skill plays significant role because it enables children to learn other skills namely; speaking, reading and writing and increase their knowledge as well. In addition listening skill exposes children to vocabulary mastery. In fact many kindergarten teachers especially in remote area don't know appropriate method to develop children's listening skill and Arabic vocabulary mastery.

This study investigates the influence of Total Physical response on Children's listening skill and Arabic vocabulary mastery. It was in RA Almuqoddasah . Jagabaya. Banjaran this study took place. The sample was taken from class B consisting 30 children which was divided equally into experimental and control group. Total physical response is a method of language teaching focusing on learners' body movement. This method is developmentally appropriate for children. It enables children to produce target language and move or practice according the supporting media available.

Based on the findings of this study, the experimental group's listening skill improved from 47.26 to 68.33 and their vocabulary mastery increased from 127.53 to 306.87. Based on the findings of this study, it is suggested that Total physical response be used in teaching Arabic for kindergarten children. This method is appropriate to develop other language skills namely speaking; writing and reading.

A. Introduction

Language is a medium of communication among people to accomplish their daily need. The achievement that someone gains in his or her life depends heavily on his/ her ability to communicate. Child's ability to communicate develops naturally, as Chomsky states that children acquire their language the way they learn to walk and stand (Dardjowidjojo, 2003; 235)

Children acquire at best foreign language when they are 4-7 years old. Azhim (2002;74) states that teaching second language to children aged 4-7 years will lessen their next learning challenge. Four to six-year old children are in their golden age to develop basic skill and knowledge including learning second language (Arabic) their curiosity and high receptive ability will enable them to learn Arabic effortlessly.