

**THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE USE OF PIANIKA MEDIA AS AN INCREASE IN
AWARENESS OF CULTURAL VALUES IN REGIONAL SONGS**

Aulia Nurul Hidayah¹, Alya Mayariah², Wasis Wijayanto³

¹²³Program Studi Pendidikan Guru Sekolah Dasar, Fakultas Keguruan dan Ilmu Pendidikan,
Universitas Muria Kudus, Kudus, Indonesia

Correspondence Email: 202233027@std.umk.ac.id

ABSTRACT

This study aims to determine the effectiveness of the use of piano musical instrument media in increasing students' awareness of local cultural values through regional songs, especially the song "Gundul-Gundul Pacul" in grade IV MI Khoiriyah Kayen Pati. The research uses a qualitative approach with a case study type. Data were collected through observation, interviews, and documentation, then analyzed using the Miles and Huberman model. The results of the study show that the use of the piano not only improves students' musical skills, but also fosters understanding of the cultural meaning contained in traditional songs. Students showed high enthusiasm in the learning process, as well as improved piano playing skills and understanding of values such as simplicity, responsibility, and leadership. These findings indicate that the media of piano musical instruments is an effective means of learning musical arts based on local culture as well as in supporting character education in elementary schools.

Keywords: cultural awareness; regional songs; character education; piano; musical arts.

INTRODUCTION

Arts, Culture and Crafts (SBDP) which is a lesson that covers many art concepts as well as an understanding of culture and crafts related to daily life. Cultural arts and crafts learning is art education that includes fine arts, music, dance, and art skills. One of the topics of musical art means the ability to use a piano instrument. The piano is an inflatable musical instrument that has a shape similar to a small, lightweight keyboard. This musical instrument consists of a row of keys and air holes at the back. The way to play the piano is to press the keys on it and regulate the airflow using your mouth and fingers. When the keys are pressed, air flows through the holes at the back, producing notes that vary depending on the key being played (Hasanah et al., 2024) (Windasari & Mahmudah, 2024) .

Music according to is a field of art in which sound, harmony, pitch, rhythm, and speed are used to convey what the maker feels. Nowadays, learning music has become part of the school curriculum. The term "art of music" itself is formed from a combination of two words, namely "art" and "music". "Art" can be described as a stunning human work, born from imagination, feeling, and creative ability. Meanwhile, "music" can be understood as a composition created from a series of tonal sounds that produce harmony that is pleasing to the ear. Savira (2023)

According to Indonesian children's songs, there are various types. There are traditional songs as well as modern songs. Each song has different advice, meaning, and message. Some of the famous songs include Tokecang, Soleram, Cublak-cublak Suweng, and Gundul-gundul Putra & Zaini (2023) l Pacul, all of which are folk songs for children. Therefore, the researcher took the song Gundul-gundul Pacul, which is one of the children's regional songs. Gundul-gundul pacul is one of the traditional songs that originated from Central Java. It is said that Sunan Kalijaga together with the youth of his time created this song in the 15th century or in the 1400s. This song contains a very deep and honorable meaning. The bald-bald pacul song depicts a leader who abuses his four senses and becomes a figure who is arrogant in his position. On the other hand, leaders who abuse and behave arrogantly will eventually fall and be unable to survive, as well as show chaotic leadership that does not provide benefits for the security of the people. The purpose of learning the bald pacul song is to increase students' sensitivity and creativity so that they can better understand the cultural values contained in children's regional songs. Therefore, it is very important for us to continue to teach and introduce regional songs to students so that their existence is maintained. This song can be sung as well as lived as a guideline in life. (Amelia et al., 2024)

A common problem found in a previous study by grade VI teachers at SDN Pinang 8 revealed that a number of students still found challenges in remembering song number notation, some of them took a long time to remember the number notation given by the teacher. In addition, students need to have the motivation and enthusiasm to learn piano instruments, considering that each student has a unique personality. This can be seen from some grades of grade VI students who still show low numbers, namely 50. Savira (2023)

In the research, there Muslim & Mansuridin (2022) are obstacles in the delivery of cultural arts subjects, especially in music arts. This obstacle is in the form of a lack of interest and enthusiasm of students in learning. In addition, another problem arises, namely learning music arts that uses lecture methods and is focused on teachers. The effort in this study is to use the media of piano musical instruments to support the course of teaching activities. The use of pianika musical instruments is also able to make students express themselves, so that students are interested in learning regional songs using pianika musical instruments.

Madrasah Ibtidaiyah Khoiriyah Kayen Pati is one of the private basic education institutions in Pati Regency that is full of enthusiasm to teach cultural values to students through relevant learning methods. However, in the implementation of Cultural Arts and Crafts learning, especially in regional song materials with the use of pianika musical instruments, there are several significant obstacles.

Based on the results of observations made in April 2025 in grade IV of MI Khoiriyah Kayen Pati, it shows that students are enthusiastic about the learning process which is quite high, especially because they are actively involved in playing songs directly using piano instruments. The song Gundul-Gundul Pacul was chosen because it is widely known and contains a rich meaning of Javanese cultural values, such as hard work, humility, and responsibility. However, there is a difference in the level of students' ability when using a piano instrument. Some of them are already skilled enough in blowing and pressing the keys according to the pitch, and can even follow the notation of the song fluently. On the other hand, some students seem to still have difficulty in

combining blowing techniques with playing notes at the same time. This can be seen from the inaccuracy of the resulting tone and the unstable rhythm. (Driana Agustin dan, 2021)

Based on the above problems, the solution that the researcher can take from this study is to provide lessons gradually, group students based on ability, and help improve their ability to play the piano while deepening their understanding of the cultural values in the song of gundul-gundul pacul. Teaching regional songs using the piano will not only improve students' musical skills, but also foster a sense of love for the nation's culture and other values contained in it. (Kusmayadi et al., 2024)

The novelty of this research lies in the use of piano musical instrument media to increase awareness of cultural values in regional songs in elementary schools. This approach not only enhances students' musical skills, but also fosters awareness of the cultural meanings contained in traditional songs. According to the statement, the results obtained from the use of piano musical instruments in music art learning show a significant improvement in quality. In addition, learning music using the piano has a great influence on the overall development of students at MIS Al-Jihad, PalangkaRaya City. Opportunities for expression improved technical abilities, the experience of teamwork, the advantages of playing the piano, and the challenges during the learning process are key findings that show how important music arts education is in this context. The importance of cultural values in maintaining local cultural heritage in Indonesia Savira (2023) (Windasari & Mahmudah, 2024) (Farhaeni & Martini, 2023) .

Local cultural values are usually found in local wisdom, where these aspects are seen as ideas, beliefs, norms, and material components. Ideas include things like values, knowledge, and experience. These values are defined as ideas and beliefs about the right or wrong norms or rules that are expected in a culture. These values are abstract concepts that are based on religion and culture, and reflect the ideals and goals of a particular society. Furthermore, from this, behaviors and rules are formed that are expected as guidelines by communicating and socializing with others. The arrival of local culture that is passed down from generation to generation has a deep meaning behind its presence. Local wisdom is one of the sources of cultural knowledge of the community which is reflected in traditions, origins, art, religion, and the education system, both formal and informal. Local wisdom functions as a social and cultural mechanism that exists in the habits and traditions of Indonesian society. These customs and traditions have been believed and proven to be effective as a means to strengthen a sense of friendship and solidarity among members of society in social and cultural contexts (Sumarni et al., 2024) .

Javanese people have oral traditions with spiritual, aesthetic, and educational meanings. Counsel can serve as an example of kindness, a command to do good, or as a prohibition. Valuable noble speeches in Javanese culture are usually presented in the form of literary works. This literary work is a means for Javanese citizens to express ideas and thoughts that contain moral values or life messages, both implicit and express. Usually, this literary work is known through word of mouth stories or in oral form. One type of oral literary work in Javanese society is tembang (Javanese song). The type of tembang that is still found among the Javanese people, especially in children, is the toy tembang A toy song is a song that is sung while playing, which contains many noble values, manners, cooperation, and religious aspects, which contains folk songs or poems that are sung and is usually accompanied by games or play activities (Faringgasari & Yulianti, 2021) .

Learning art through regional songs at the elementary school level not only aims to improve students' musical skills, but also to instill local cultural values in the song. At MI Khoiriyah Kayen Pati, it can be seen that although the enthusiasm of the students is very high, not all students can play the piano well, and their understanding of the cultural meaning of the song Gundul-Gundul Pacul is still relatively low. Therefore, the question to be studied in this study is: "How can the effectiveness of the use of piano musical instrument media increase the awareness of fourth grade students of MI Khoiriyah Kayen Pati towards local cultural values?".

Based on the description above, this study aims to determine the effectiveness of the use of piano musical instrument media to increase the awareness of fourth grade students of MI Khoiriyah Kayen Pati towards local cultural values, therefore the researcher took the title "The Effectiveness of the Use of Piano Musical Instrument Media to Increase Awareness of Cultural Values in Regional Songs in Grade IV Students".

RESEARCH METHODS

This research uses a qualitative approach with a case study type of research. This approach was chosen because it is in accordance with the purpose of the research that wants to explore in depth the use of media in the form of piano musical instruments in fostering awareness of cultural values through regional songs in grade IV students. Qualitative research is research based on postpositivist or interpretive thinking, applied to explore objects in natural conditions, this approach is chosen to find out the meaning, views, and experiences of students in learning musical arts based on local traditions thoroughly and according to the context (Scott, 2019). The type of research used is this type of case study chosen because the research focuses on one case unit, namely class IV MI Khoiriyah Kyen Pati. This study was carried out intensively on the phenomenon of culture-based music learning through piano in the classroom. This research aims to open the phenomenon of education through real activities in the classroom, by considering the relationship between students, teachers, learning media, and cultural values in the song Gundul-Gundul Pacul. According to Creswell & Creswell (2018) the qualitative approach, it is appropriate to use when the researcher wants to understand socio-cultural phenomena from the perspective of the participants in a contextual and comprehensive manner. Regional songs such as Gundul-Gundul Pacul not only contain musical elements, but are also loaded with Javanese cultural values, so it requires an interpretive approach so that its meaning can be explored properly. The subject of the study is a fourth grade student of MI Khoiriyah Kayen who has received regional song material and has piano instrument facilities.

In this study, the research instrument consisted of observation sheets used to record student activities during learning, interview widths containing open-ended questions that explored students' understanding of the cultural meaning of songs and the experience of playing the piano, and documentation in the form of photos and videos of activities. The data collection technique based on triangulation consists of observation, teacher and student interviews, and documentation. This research step begins with planning consisting of the preparation of teaching modules, the preparation of research instruments, and the preparation of piano musical instruments. The second implementation process, this process begins with the introduction of the Gundul-Gundul Pacul song, practice of basic techniques for playing the piano, and the combination of vocals and instruments. Third, reflection and evaluation were carried out with interviews, analysis of the development of musical skills and cultural awareness, small group discussions for reflection on cultural values.(Haryono, 2023)

Music art learning is in accordance with the theory by Prof. Dr. Wasis Dwi Aryanto, M.Pd, namely the theory of contextual music learning in elementary schools. This theory explains that music learning must be based on direct experience, perspective, and associated with the local cultural context. He emphasized the importance of using simple musical instruments such as the piano and angklung in shaping the character and sense of belonging to culture. Another theory by Swanwick and Tilman, namely the theory of the spiral model of music learning, also emphasizes five spiral models consisting of five stages, namely sensory, manipulative, personal, social, and ideational. The outline of music learning must emphasize these five stages, in addition to music learning must pay attention to the cognitive, emotional, and social dimensions. (Aisy & Wijayanto, 2024)

The data analysis method applied follows the stages formulated by Miles and Huberman, which consists of four main stages, namely data collection, data presentation, data reduction, and conclusion or verification. Data reduction was carried out by simplifying, selecting, and focusing raw data from observation, interviews, and documentation, in this study data reduction selected interview excerpts that are relevant to the understanding of cultural values of the song Gundul Gundul Pacul. The presentation of data was carried out by compiling a table of the development of students' piano playing skills from meeting to meeting. Furthermore, the conclusion and verification of this research is to conclude that pianika media increases cultural awareness because students are able to explain the meaning of the lyrics of the songs played. The following is a chart of the data analysis techniques.

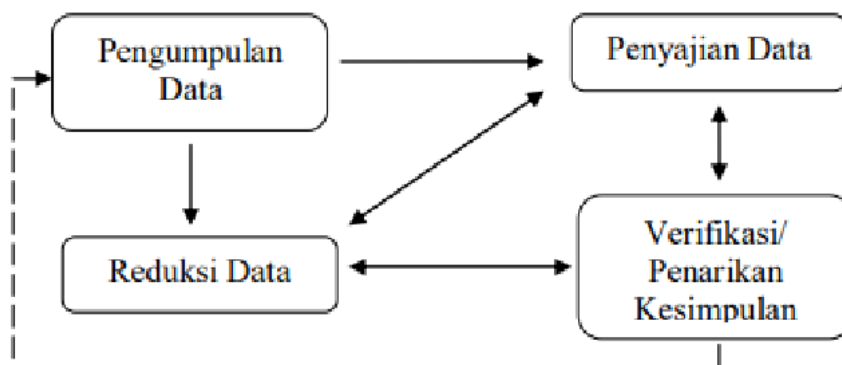


Figure 1. Data Analysis Model Miles Huberman
Source Google.com

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The Effectiveness of Piano Musical Instrument Media

Learning cultural arts with Gundul-Gundul Pacul regional songs using piano instruments showed significant results in increasing students' awareness of local cultural values. Through observations during learning activities in grade IV of MI Khoiriyah Kayen Pati, students looked very enthusiastic, active, and emotionally involved when singing and playing the song. This involvement shows that there is a bond between students and the material being taught because the song has a cultural and emotional closeness to their background. This teaching method emphasizes the importance of a contextual approach, in which learners feel that the material being studied is related to daily life.(Sumarni et al., 2024).

The use of the piano as a supporting musical instrument allows students to live learning in various ways. This supports the idea that learning is more successful when it involves a variety of senses and real activities. When students practice playing the song "Gundul-Gundul Pacul", they not only learn with the tone and rhythm, but also understand the meaning of the lyrics that convey moral messages about leadership, responsibility, and simplicity. This method is in line with the practice of character education in the art of engraving Jepara, which teaches exemplary values, respect for culture, and creativity through direct activities and reflection.(Prasetya & Wijayanto, 2024)

The use of the piano not only improves musical skills, but also helps learners to understand the cultural values contained in the song. The Gundul-Gundul Pacul song as a teaching material contains wisdom about the importance of simplicity, responsibility, and integrity of a leader. When students understand the meaning of this song, they not only hone their tonal and rhythmic skills, but also absorb the cultural messages and characters that exist in them. This shows that art learning can be an effective method in character education that is rooted in local culture.(Putra & Zaini, 2023)

Based on the results of observations made by researchers in grade IV of MI Khoiriyah Kayen Pati, it shows that the use of piano musical instrument media in learning regional songs has a positive impact on students' learning enthusiasm. The students showed a great enthusiasm for learning when they were directly involved in playing the song Gundul-Gundul Pacul using the piano. This active engagement shows that education that combines elements of musical practice and cultural values can result in a significant and enjoyable learning experience for learners.



Figure 2. Playing the Piano Instrument
Source of Researcher Documentation

Pianika Media Effectively Increases Awareness of Cultural Values in Regional Songs

Technically, the results of this activity show that students' ability to play the piano develops through an orderly and continuous process. At the beginning of the lesson, a number of students faced difficulties such as incompatibility between the pressure on the keys and the blowing made, and inaccuracy in reading the notation of the song number. However, with individual guidance and the preparation of learning groups based on ability, students began to show progress in aspects of technique and musicality. This is in line with the principles of difference-focused learning, which highlights the importance of mapping the learning needs of each individual in the classroom. (Windasari & Mahmudah, 2024)

The success of using the piano as a learning tool is highly dependent on the role of teachers who can develop teaching strategies with methods and flexibly and according to the context. Educators must understand the characteristics of students, the readiness of tools, and a supportive learning environment. According to the show, teachers who apply project-based learning strategies and concrete tools, such as musical instruments and used materials, can increase students' creativity and participation in the learning process of Cultural Arts and Crafts. Teachers are not only as a conveyor of information, but also as a facilitator, curiosity stirrer, and protector of cultural values. Albab et al., (2024) (Mayariah et al., 2024)

The learning process also shows that the use of real media such as piano helps students understand musical notation. With direct interaction, it becomes easier for students to remember melodic patterns and appreciate the values taught through songs. Playing songs together creates a collaborative environment that supports social values such as cooperation, tolerance, and mutual respect among friends. These findings are in line with research conducted by the University of Wisconsin, which states that practice-based music learning methods can significantly increase student participation and enthusiasm. Savira et al., (2023)

In general, the success of using piano instruments to teach regional songs depends not only on improving musical skills, but also on its ability as a means of learning that affects cognitive, emotional, and motor aspects in a balanced manner. When the learning process is designed with relevant methods and rooted in the local culture, students will get a learning experience that has deep meaning, while also bringing a positive influence on the formation of their character and cultural understanding.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the research, it can be concluded that the use of piano musical instrument media in learning regional songs, especially the song "Gundul-Gundul Pacul", has proven to be effective in increasing the awareness of grade IV students to local cultural values. This medium not only enriches the learning experience through musical aspects, but also deepens students' understanding of the meaning and moral messages in song, such as responsibility, simplicity, and leadership. Learning activities that are contextual, collaborative, and based on real practices are able to foster interest in learning, build character, and strengthen student culture. This success is largely

determined by the role of teachers in designing learning strategies that suit the characteristics of students and combine cognitive, affective, and psychomotor aspects in a balanced manner.

Suggestion

Based on the results of the study showing that the use of piano musical instrument media is effective in increasing students' awareness of local cultural values, the researcher provides the following suggestions: suggestions for teachers are expected to continue to develop contextual and local culture-based music arts learning by utilizing relevant media such as pianika. This approach has been proven to be able to improve musical skills while shaping the character of students through an understanding of cultural values. Next suggestions for schools. Schools need to provide adequate facilities and infrastructure to support musical arts learning, including simple musical instruments such as pianika. In addition, schools can also integrate local content in learning activities to preserve regional culture. Furthermore, suggestions for students, students are expected to continue to be actively involved in cultural arts learning activities, especially through fun and meaningful approaches such as playing musical instruments. This will help them develop an appreciation for the nation's culture and increase their confidence and ability to work together.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Aisy, F. R., & Wijayanto, W. (2024). Problematic Analysis of the Use of Piano Musical Instruments in Learning Musical Arts at MI NU Tholibin. *Journal of Basic Education Research (JRPD)*, 5(2), 181. <https://doi.org/10.30595/jrpd.v5i2.21845>
- Albab, A. U., Baihaqi, D., & Wijayanto, W. (2024). TEACHERS' STRATEGIES IN DEVELOPING SBdP LEARNING ON THE CREATIVITY OF GRADE IV STUDENTS OF SD 2 MEJOBLO KUDUS. *Pendas : Scientific Journal of Basic Education*.
- Amelia, R., Khusna, Z. M., Fadilah, S. N., & Rifiyati, D. (2024). *Learning Islamic Music Arts for the Formation of Character Education in Elementary Schools*. <http://e-journal.staibanisaleh.ac.id/index.php/wildan/index>
- Creswell, J. W., & Creswell, J. D. (2018). *Research Design Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches*. SAGE Publications, Inc.
- Driana Agustin and, M. (2021). *Improvement of Integrated Thematic Learning Outcomes Using Project-Based Learning Based on Song Media in Class V of SD Negeri 03 VII Koto Talago Lima Puluh Kota*.
- Farhaeni, M., & Martini, S. (2023). THE IMPORTANCE OF CULTURAL VALUES EDUCATION IN MAINTAINING LOCAL CULTURAL HERITAGE IN INDONESIA. *JOURNAL OF SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCES*, 3(2). <https://doi.org/10.30742/juispol.v3i2.3483>
- Faringgasari, D., & Yulianti. (2021). JAVANESE PHILOSOPHY IN THE SONG OF DOLANAN GUNDUL-GUNDUL PACUL AND ITS CHARACTER EDUCATION. *JIM: Scientific Journal of History Education Students*, 6(2).
- Haryono, E. (2023). *Qualitative Research Methodology in Islamic Religious Colleges*.
- Hasanah, S. D., Permatasari, T., Sakmal, J., & Dallion, E. (2024). Literature Study: Efforts to Improve Student Learning Outcomes in SBdP Subjects Using Audio Visual Media in Elementary Schools. *Journal of Basic Science*, 8(3), 1711–1721. <https://doi.org/10.31004/basicedu.v8i3.7474>
- Kusmayadi, C., Sutisnawati, A., & Hamdani Maula, L. (2024). *Development of E-Modules on Piano Instrument Skills in Musical Arts Learning in Elementary Schools*. 10(4), 1277–1283. <https://doi.org/10.31949/educatio.v10i4.10419>
- Mayariah, A., Hidayah, A. N., Koestanti, J., & Amaliyah, F. (2024). ACHIEVEMENT OF STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES BY USING AUDIO VISUAL MEDIA FOR GRADE III SD N 1 JIMBARAN. *MathVision: Journal of Mathematics*, 6(2), 96–101. <https://doi.org/10.55719/mv.v6i2.1226>
- Muslim, H., & Mansurdin. (2022). *USING THE PROJECT BASED LEARNING (PJBL) MODEL IN THE SUBJECT OF ARTS, CULTURE AND CRAFTS IN GRADE IV SDN 24 UJUNG GURUN PADANG*.
- Prasetya, A. B., & Wijayanto, W. (2024). Get to Know the Values Contained in Jepara Tatah Carving Art as Character Education. *Prajaiswara Journal*, 5(2). <https://doi.org/10.55351/prajaiswara.v5i2.135>
- Putra, D. A. P., & Zaini, I. (2023). LYRICS OF THE SONG GUNDUL-GUNDUL PACUL AS A THEME FOR DRAWING ILLUSTRATIONS FOR STUDENTS OF SMKN 5 SURABAYA. In *Journal of Fine Arts* (Vol. 11, Issue 3). <http://e-journal.unesa.ac.id/index.php/va>
- Savira, D., Sunaryo, & Sa'odah. (2023). *Analysis of the Use of Pianika Musical Instruments in Learning Musical Arts Class VI SDN Pinang 8 Tangerang City*.

- Sugiyono. (2019). *Qualitative, Quantitative, and R&D Research Methods*.
- Sumarni, M. L., Jewarut, S., Melati, F. V., & Kusnanto. (2024). Integration of Local Cultural Values in Learning in Elementary Schools. In *Journal of Education Research* (Vol. 5, Issue 3).
- Windasari, W., & Mahmudah, I. (2024). Teacher's Perspective on Learning Musical Arts with Piano Class V MIS Al-Jihad, Palangka Raya City. *Journal of Educational and Cultural Research Studies*, 2(2), 126–134. <https://doi.org/10.59031/jkppk.v2i2.387>