

## **OPTIMALIZING THE USE OF GO READING DIGITAL LIBRARY IN INCREASING STUDENT'S READING INTEREST IN ONLINE LEARNING**

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### **Abstract**

During the current covid-19 pandemic, students are required to be more independent in learning, especially increasing interest in reading because reading is a gateway to find information. This study aims to increase interest in reading through a digital library application called Go Reading. With Go Reading Students can easily access reading anytime and anywhere, without having to bother carrying piles of books. The research method used is Research and Development. Research and Development was modified by researchers only up to 6 steps. Based on the results of interviews and the distribution of response questionnaires to the use of the Go Reading digital library application to increase reading interest, the results with high criteria indicate that the use of the application can be categorized as optimally increasing students' reading interest. The conclusion is that in optimizing digital libraries, students must be actively involved in increasing their learning independence, and there is awareness in students and the role of parents and teachers in directing, supervising, guiding, and motivating students in optimizing the role of digital libraries in online learning.

**Keywords:** Digital Libraries, Reading Interests, Online Learning

### **INTRODUCTION**

Interest in reading means the attention or inclination of the heart to read. Indonesian people's interest in reading, especially children, is still very low. The low interest in reading in Indonesian society makes education in Indonesia less than expected. Reading habits need to be started from an early age both at home and at school. Interest in reading fosters a great interest in finding various information related to the current situation. Interest in reading grows from each person's personality, so as to increase interest in reading, awareness of each other's needs. Based on the research results, the Alibaca Index shows that the average number of the National Alibaca Index is in the low literacy activity category, which is 37.32. The score consists of four-dimensional indices, including the Proficiency Dimension Index 75.92; Access Dimension Index 23.09; Alternative Dimension Index of 40.49; and the Cultural Dimension Index of 28.50. (Wiratno et al., 2017) The lowest dimensions and related to the current situation are the dimensions of access and the dimensions of culture. In today's digital era, access and cultural dimensions should be more easily improved by utilizing technology, tools, or devices

that can be easily accessed by everyone. Currently, our society tends to prefer watching TV and playing with gadgets rather than reading or being literate, so reading interest in Indonesia is still very low.

The causes of the low interest in reading include 1. Educational facilities and infrastructure that are less supportive, especially libraries. 2. Lack of library management and varied book collections, the number of books in the library is far from sufficient for reading needs. 3. Advances in technology. The development of increasingly attractive technology and information centers, the internet, the development of entertainment venues, or television shows, have reduced the status and position of libraries, as well as the image of libraries in the eyes of the public. 4. Lack of Family Support. Unfavorable family conditions, especially most parents who are not very close to students so it is impossible to exemplify the love of reading to their children, accompanied by a lack of parental attention and supervision of their activities. (Nurhaidah, 2016) According to Akhtar & Khan (2019) in their research, they found that students' interest was correlated with their father's interest in reading and books available at home or places closest to their homes. It is recommended that students be given reading material in the nearest place and parents should also show an interest in reading so that children can follow it well.

Currently, during the Covid-19 pandemic, learning is done online to suppress the spread of the virus in Indonesia. Online learning, online learning or distance learning itself aims to meet educational standards by utilizing Information Technology by using computers or gadgets that are interconnected between students and teachers as well as between students and lecturers so that through the use of technology the teaching and learning process can still be carried out. done right. (Pakpahan & Fitriani, 2020)

Based on the results of interviews with several students at SDN Empang 02 Bogor City, several factors causing the problem of lack of interest in reading include motivation from parents and teachers. Parents sometimes pamper their children by giving them the freedom to use cell phones or watch television (TV). For this reason, it is necessary to make efforts to increase interest in reading both in class and at home by utilizing digital technology so that students are motivated to read.

Currently, gadgets are one of the tools that are expected to provide convenience and can support daily activities for the wearer. For that we need several applications that can be applied to mobile phones. Wijaya et al. (2009) The use of Android-based devices with the creation of a digital library is expected to make it easier to access book literature so that students

do not experience difficulties in finding books to read. Parekh et al. (2019) A digital library is a system that provides users with coherent access to a very large and organized repository of information and knowledge. Digital library is a global virtual library. Collection of graphic images and others. Disseminated in the digital library without limitation of place and space in all digital forms via the internet which are accessed by network services provided to users. Regarding the use of digital libraries, there are results of Prawesti (2014) research "There is an influence between the variables of using digital reading applications (X) on the variable level of student interest in reading (Y)". This conclusion is based on the acquisition of the tcount coefficient which is greater than the ttable coefficient ( $9.849 > 1.987$ ) with a significance level of 0.05, then  $H_0$  is rejected, so there is an influence between the use of digital reading applications (X) on the level of reading interest (Y) among university students. Airlanga. The influence between the X and Y variables is a significant influence, because the significance value is  $< 0.05$  ( $0.000 < 0.05$ ), and is classified as a strong influence with a positive direction, where the Pearson correlation coefficient obtained is 0.705. The magnitude of the effect of the variable using digital reading applications (X) on the variable level of interest in reading (Y) is 49.7%. While the remaining 50.3% is influenced by other factors not mentioned in this study. Based on this, it can be seen that there is a positive effect of using digital reading applications on students' reading interest. Based on the results of the study, currently digital libraries can affect reading interest among students because they are not limited by time and space.

The use of digital library applications based on the results of research conducted by Asari et al. (2021) it was found that the implementation and development of SLiMS in the MI Nurul Islam library in terms of the quality of the system was quite good because it could always display updated information so that it could foster reading interest. has a fairly fast response time and time for feature changes, the information displayed is always accurate, features complete, easy to operate and can be accessed using ethernet and internet networks, making it easier for users to get information and having an impact on increasing user interest in reading. Then in terms of information quality, SLiMS can provide accurate and complete information. Based on this, that with a digital library students will get information and also a view that is always up to date so that it motivates students to be even more active in reading because there is a lot of up-to-date information.

With the background of the research results, the researchers are interested in making a digital library application that can increase reading interest among elementary school students, especially grade 3 students at SDN Empang 02 Bogor City. Digital library application

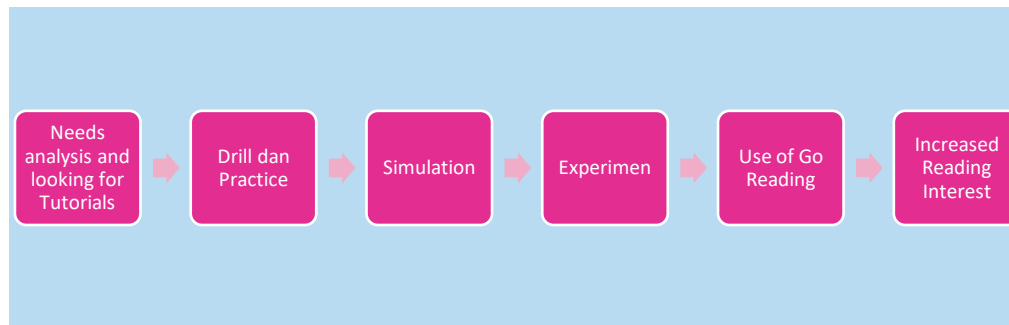
development researchers named it Go Reading. The Go Reading application is a digital library application that is easy to download and implement. The benefit of the Go Reading application is that it makes it easier for students or the public to read anywhere and anytime without having to carry books. Therefore, in the Go Reading application there are various types of reading, both stories, fairy tales, poetry, and even elementary school thematic books that can make it easier for elementary school students to read thematic books according to their class. The Go Reading application is also one way to reduce the inappropriate use of cell phones by children. Go Reading provides an alternative for teachers in providing teaching materials or materials at school so that students will be more interested in reading and learning.

Based on the above, the formulation of the problem "Can the use of the Go Reading digital library application optimally increase reading interest in Empang 02 Elementary School Students, Bogor City? While the purpose of this study was to determine the optimization of the use of the Go Reading library application in increasing reading interest in online learning.

The Go Reading digital library application is needed by students because with Go Reading students can read anytime and anywhere without having to bother carrying books or other reading materials. According to the researcher, this research must be carried out because if left unchecked, the students' low interest in reading will have an impact on learning situations and conditions so that it will affect student learning outcomes.

## **METHOD**

The Methods this study uses the Research and Development media development method from Borg and Gall which was modified by the researcher only in 6 stages because (Sugiyono., 2016) was modified by the researcher. The method used to convey ideas through several well-organized systematic steps. The steps to be implemented include: 1. Needs analysis and looking for tutorials. 2. Drill and Practice. 3. Simulation. 4. Experiment or Experiment. 5. Use of Go Reading. 6. Increased Reading Interest.



**Figure 1.** Research and Development Step

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Results

1. **Needs analysis and looking for Tutorials.** Looking for a guide in making applications that become a reference in making Go Reading and how to apply them based on literacy results.

In making this application, researchers look for guidebooks, guides on YouTube in the form of tutorials on making applications on the AppsGeyser platform which can be made into various applications that support the learning process.

2. **Drill and Practice.** Application development design and testing of the Go Reading application several times to reduce trial and error. Researchers designed the application according to the manual and guidelines in the AppsGeyser application itself. When the Go Reading application was first made, it failed twice, this is because when the application was made it required internet with a very large bandwidth and all materials to be included in the Go Reading application must be available,

Experiment 1. The researcher opened the application and did a series on the application because at the time of the trial the researcher had not prepared many books to be included and then the researcher left the application, but when the researcher re-entered the go reading application all the books were already in soft form, the files entered were lost. and the application hangs.

Experiment 2. The researcher provides a soft file of books that will be entered into the Go Reading application, the entry of book material to be read later has been carried out and succeeded, but because it is still in the experimental stage, not much material has been entered, the researcher will add it by editing it, However, after trying it, it turns out that if

it is considered complete then the bookkeeping is considered complete, so it cannot be edited to add or reduce books that are already in the application. This is a weakness.

3. Simulation. Enter various data or documents needed in the Go Reading library so that it can be realized in the use of online and offline reading.

After the Go Reading application is considered to have met the expected criteria, then the results of the manufacture are simulated to the research team themselves, and teachers so that teachers are motivated to create digital teaching materials that can be stored in the Go Reading application.

4. Experiment. Testing the results of making and inputting documents in Go Reading to teachers to test the level of usefulness and speed in accessing Go Reading.

The application that has been made is retested and asks for feedback from the teachers regarding this Go Reading application. The response from the teacher got very good results.

5. Use of Go Reading. The application of Go Reading in learning.

After the Go Reading application got very good assessment results from the teachers, then this application was used as a medium for teaching materials by teachers to students by sending a link from the Go Reading application to 41 students who were used as respondents.

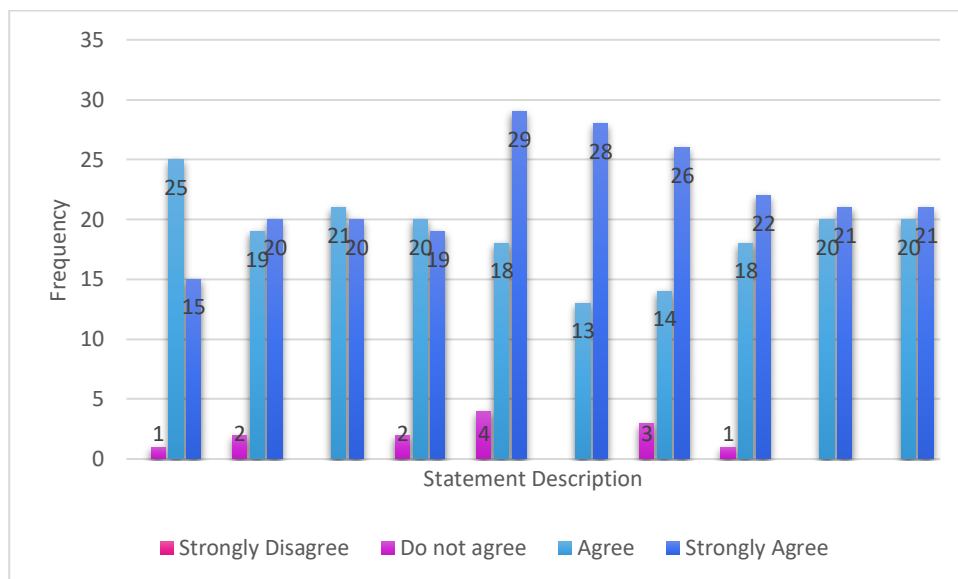
Based on the results of the questionnaire given to students regarding the use of the Go Reading digital library application in online learning, the following results were obtained:

**Table 1.** The Results Of Student Questionnaires Using The Go Reading Digital Library Application In Online Learning

No	Statement Description	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
1	Learning to use the go reading digital library helps me understand the general description of the material in learning		1	25	15
2	Learning to use the digital library go reading helps me understand the content of the material that has been delivered.		2	19	20
3	I am more motivated to do reading when I use the library in digital go reading			21	20

4	By opening the go reading digital library application, it increases my curiosity about the material.	2	20	19
5	The use of go reading digital libraries increases my motivation to pay attention to learning	4	18	29
6	I mean it when I read the books in the digital library go reading		13	28
7	I like to answer questions in the go reading digital library because it will increase my knowledge regarding the material presented.	3	14	26
8	Go reading digital library helps me to think critically	1	18	22
9	Reading in the go reading digital library helps me remember the material that has been conveyed		20	21
10	I feel challenged to work on the questions in the go reading digital library		20	21

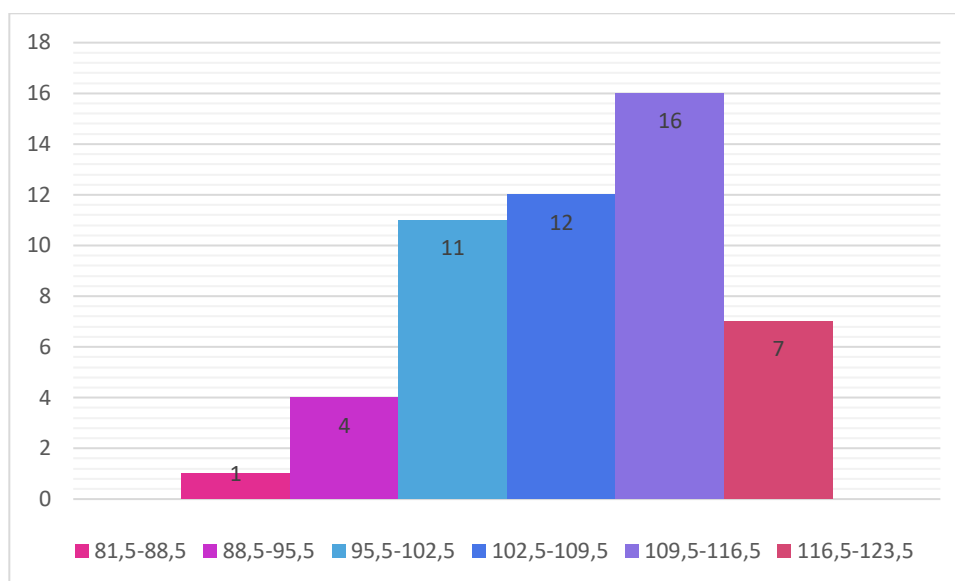
The results of the questionnaire above when made into the form of a histogram diagram will look like the following:



**Figure 1.** The results of student questionnaires using the go reading digital library application in online learning

Based on these data, it appears that the use of the Go Reading digital library application helps students increase interest in reading and learning. If it is seen that the use of the Go Reading digital library application has a positive influence on student learning, this application is considered optimal in increasing students' reading interest in online learning.

This can be seen from the results of student responses after the average score obtained the following results:

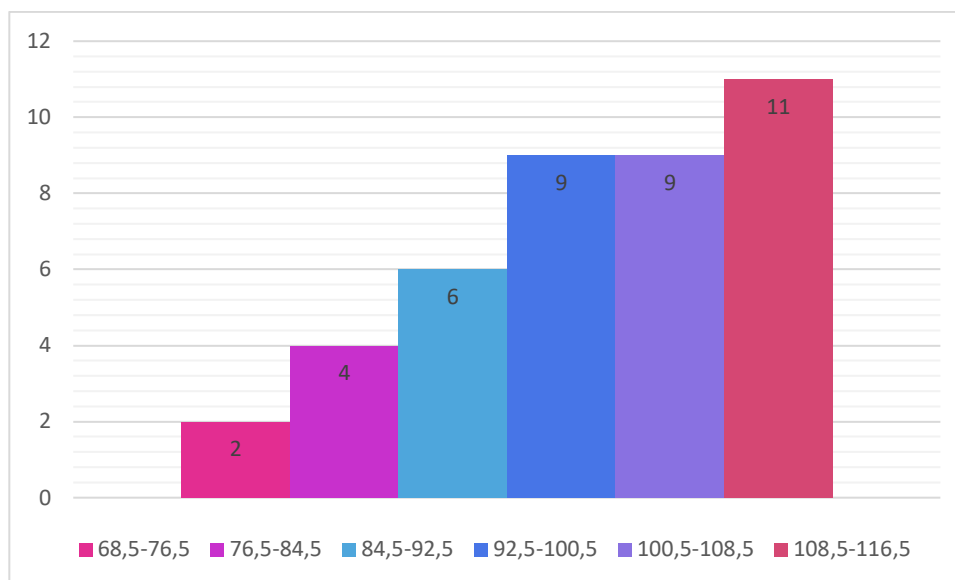


**Figure 2.** Student Responses to Optimizing the Go Reading Digital Library Application

Based on the histogram diagram above, it can be explained the results of student responses to the use of the Go Reading Application that the highest number of frequencies is in the range 103 – 108 as many as 7 students (17.07%) and the lowest frequency is in the range 73 – 78 as many as 1 student (2.44 %), it means that students respond that the Go Reading library application helps students in online learning optimally so that students' reading interest and learning outcomes increase.

6. Increased Reading Interest. Based on the results of research on indicators of reading interest, among others: 1). Enjoyment of reading books on the Go Reading Application. 2). The desire to always read books because there is no need to carry a lot of books everywhere 3). Interest in reading books because of the large selection of books 4). The desire to always look for reading books on the Go Reading Application 5). Take time to read books more relaxed 6). Take time to find a book you like.





**Figure 3.** Increasing Student Interest in Reading

Based on the histogram diagram above, it can be explained that the highest number of frequencies is in the range 98 - 104.5 as many as 11 students (26.83%) and the lowest frequency is in the range 63 - 69 as many as 2 students (4.88%), it means that students feel that reading on the Go reading library application they can enjoy it well, the desire to always read books because of the ease of reading books without the need to carry many books everywhere, always interested in reading books because of the large selection of books, the many variations of books in the application the go reading library raises the desire to always look for reading books on the Go Reading application, the convenience of the Go Reading digital library is in a gadget, this makes it possible to have free time to read books and will be more relaxed, with this application there is also more free time in finding the books you like.

## Discussion

The Discussion Digital library is a system that has various services and information objects that support access to these information objects through digital devices (Subroto, 2009) Growing Digital library may be just a text-based information system distributed distributed collection of spaces, and multimedia information systems. This provides access to a very large amount of information where the book collection can support user-friendly multimedia content and support advanced search and retrieval of information (Parekh et al., 2019) research results by Kustandi & Situmorang (2013) students in providing library materials, and lecture materials.

Green & Jones (2014) state that digital libraries offer many options for school librarians to partner and collaborate with students and teachers, promoting student learning across the

curriculum. It is mentioned that digital libraries can create potential spaces to cultivate lifelong reading habits and develop digital literacy.

According to Subroto (2009) some of the advantages of digital libraries are as follows:

- 1) First, long distance service, meaning that with digital libraries, users can enjoy as much service as they want, anytime and anywhere.
- 2) easy access. Access to digital libraries is easier than conventional libraries, because users do not need to be bothered by searching the catalog for a long time.
- 3), cheap (cost effective). Digital libraries don't cost much. Digitizing library collections is cheaper than buying books.
- 4), prevent duplication and plagiarism. Digital libraries are more “secure”, so they will not be easy to plagiarize. If the library collection is stored in PDF format, the library collection can only be read by the user, without being able to edit it.
- 5), publication of works globally. With the digital library, works can be published globally throughout the world with the help of the internet.

Apendi (2020) Libraries play an important role in learning, because the function of the library as a learning resource is very prominent. Libraries are not only useful as learning resources, but also provide references to improve student learning processes. Libraries need to be revived by building more modern systems and excellent service. To the readers, the library, campus or public library for the community needs to be improved, both physically and complementing popular books, and making the application online, accessible wherever the readers are.

According to Buchanan et al. (2015 ) the use of digital libraries must pay attention to a clear relationship between device choice, location selection, reading material, time management, and reading tasks or goals in order to increase reading interest. Interest in reading is one of the factors that have an important role in reading activities, in our society especially interest in reading tends to be small when compared to the role of other interests such as interest in extracurricular activities in informal schools in particular. Interest in reading is a reading activity that is carried out by someone to get information. (Meliyawati, 2018)

A digital library as a supporter of distance learning during the Covid pandemic, it acts as a learning resource, as a provider of teaching and learning materials that must provide excellent and maximum service and complete its book collection in order to fulfill the needs and information for its users to achieve learning goals during the pandemic. covid-19 (Mubarok, 2021)

Go Reading's digital library makes it easy for students to be able to read anywhere and anytime and without having to bother carrying lots of books, just with an Android-based device

reading activities can be done. This is certainly expected to increase interest in reading among students. Setiyadi et al. (2019) Interest in reading is a high desire or tendency to read. Nowadays information is easily accessible anytime, anywhere, and by anyone. Everyone can access various kinds of information through their gadgets through search engine sites such as Google, Yahoo, and so on with the help of an internet connection.

To optimize digital libraries, students must be actively involved in increasing their learning independence, and there is awareness in students and the role of parents in directing, supervising, guiding, and motivating students so that there is good collaboration between students, parents and teachers in optimizing the role of students. digital library in online learning. Thus it will create interest in reading students on their own awareness and will further support the effectiveness and efficiency in learning online learning during the covid-19 pandemic.

## **CONCLUSION**

The conclusion the Go Reading application is an application that makes it easy for readers to read anywhere and anytime. Making this application so that the reading interest of students or the community can increase. This application can be accessed using an Android-based cellphone that can be used and carried by everyone. The benefit of the Go Reading application is that it makes it easier for students or the public to read anywhere and anytime without having to carry books. Because in the Go Reading application there are various types of reading, whether it's stories, fairy tales, poetry, and even thematic books for elementary school learning that can make it easier for elementary school students to read thematic books according to their class. The Go Reading app is also one way to reduce bad phone usage. To optimize digital libraries, students must be actively involved in increasing their learning independence, and there is awareness in students and the role of parents in directing, supervising, guiding, and motivating students so that there is good collaboration between students, parents and teachers in optimizing the role of students. digital library in learning

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