

# Development of Al-Qur'an Hadith Learning Media in the Form of a Board Book for Hijaiyah Letters Material at MIN Medan

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#### Abstract

Teachers have steps to increase learning effectiveness, including designing learning materials and media. The ability to develop learning tools needs to be continuously improved to make learning more varied and prevent student boredom. This study proposes a solution by introducing hijaiyah letters to children through board books. Using a research and development (R&D) approach, this research employs the ADDIE (Analysis-Design-Develop-Implement-Evaluate) model to create and test the product's effectiveness. The study refers to the Reiser and Mollenda model for instructional system design. Applying the ADDIE approach, this research includes various data collection methods, including board book media trials, needs analysis, media development, and media feasibility evaluation. Research instruments such as validation sheets and student response questionnaires were used to collect data in developing the Al-Qur'an Hadith learning media as board books for grade 1 at MIN 1 Kota Medan.

Keywords: Al-Qur'an, Board Book, Hadith Media, Hijaiyah Letters

#### Abstrak

Guru memiliki langkah-langkah untuk meningkatkan efektivitas pembelajaran, termasuk merancang bahan ajar dan media pembelajaran. Kemampuan dalam mengembangkan perangkat pembelajaran perlu terus ditingkatkan agar pembelajaran lebih variatif dan mencegah kebosanan peserta didik. Penelitian ini mengusulkan solusi dengan memperkenalkan huruf hijaiyah kepada anak-anak melalui buku Boardbook. Dengan pendekatan penelitian dan pengembangan (R&D), penelitian ini menguji keefektifan produk. Penelitian merujuk pada model Reiser dan Mollenda untuk desain sistem pembelajaran. Dengan menerapkan pendekatan ADDIE, penelitian ini mencakup beragam metode pengumpulan data, termasuk uji coba media boardbook, analisis kebutuhan, pengembanga media dan evaluasi kelayakan media. Instrumen penelitian, seperti lembar validasi dan angket respon siswa, digunakan untuk mengumpulkan data dalam pengembangan media pembelajaran Al-Qur'an Hadis berbentuk boardbook di kelas 1 di MIN 1 Kota Medan.

Kata kunci: Al-Qur'an, Arabic Alphabet, Boardbook, Hadis Media

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# INTRODUCTION

Islamic religious education is a comprehensive and systematic effort to prepare and shape learners to understand, believe in, and practice Islamic teachings through the holy scriptures, namely the Al-Qur'an and Hadith. This education's essence involves transferring knowledge, values, and skills from one generation to the next. Therefore, Islamic religious education includes two main aspects: educating learners to behave according to Islamic teachings and teaching them Islamic religious materials (Azizy, 2002).

Islamic education rooted in the Al-Qur'an and Hadith has a central position in the educational world as all its principles and teachings are sourced from the Al-Qur'an (Anam et al., 2022). Education functions to empower learners by creating a learning environment that suits their characteristics. Effective and integrated learning facilitates the efficient development of learners' potential, considering comprehensive and optimal growth. This view arises from a societal perspective that educated individuals tend to be valued more highly than their uneducated peers.

Islamic religious education aims to provide an understanding of knowledge and values related to Islam. It involves learning about Islamic teachings, history, culture, ethics, and worship practices in Islam. The main goal is to form a generation with a strong understanding of Islamic teachings, morality, and ethics according to Islamic values.

The Al-Qur'an and Hadith are the two primary sources of Islamic teachings. A solid understanding of both is crucial for Muslims. One of the initial steps in understanding the Al-Qur'an is learning the Arabic alphabet or hijaiyah letters, which form the basis for reading and writing Al-Qur'an and Hadith texts. The curriculum for teaching Al-Qur'an and Hadith to first-grade students in Madrasah Ibtidaiyah includes knowledge of hijaiyah letters. Understanding these letters is a crucial factor in reading and comprehending the Al-Qur'an and Hadith. Therefore, educators, including teachers and parents, are encouraged to introduce and explain the Arabic alphabet to children from an early age.

Introducing letters to children is essential to supporting their learning to read and write. One way to introduce letters is by showing them the sounds and shapes of each letter. One type of letter that can be taught to children is the Arabic alphabet or hijaiyah letters. There are 28 letters in this alphabet, which are fundamental in forming words in Arabic and the Al-Qur'an (Iqromah, 2018).

Furthermore, the Minister of Education and Culture Regulation Number 8 of 2016 concerning books used in educational institutions emphasizes the critical role of textbooks in curriculum implementation (Ministry of Education and Culture 2016). Therefore, developing effective and engaging teaching materials is essential to support the learning process of Islamic religious education, particularly in teaching Al-Qur'an and Hadith. Teaching materials include structured content to allow students to learn according to the applicable curriculum and enable teachers to deliver material organizationally (Yuberti, 2014).

In the context of Madrasah education, teaching materials used for religious subjects such as Al-Qur'an Hadith, Aqidah Akhlaq, Islamic Cultural History, and Fiqh, as well as Arabic language lessons, are prepared by the Ministry of Religion. To achieve basic competence in the Material of Recognizing Hijaiyah Letters, learners need to understand the Arabic letters and how to pronounce them, including Fathah, Kasrah, and Dhammah.

However, after conducting preliminary research on October 30, 2023, through observations and interviews with Mrs. Ngatiani, S. Pd., an Al-Qur'an and Hadith teacher for grade 1 (Makkah Class) at MIN 1 Kota Medan, it was found that various methods had been tried to teach this material. These methods include using songs, videos, puzzles, and other approaches. Nevertheless, there still needs to be more variety in the teaching process, which sometimes makes learners feel bored. In addition, the printed teaching materials used in these subjects are limited to Student Worksheets (LKS). Although LKS is a tool used in school activities related to the curriculum and extracurricular activities to help students understand

specific concepts or materials more efficiently, it is considered monotonous by students in terms of content and appearance (Wahdah, 2016).

Teachers can take several steps to enhance student's effectiveness, one of which is designing teaching materials or learning media. Every teacher should continuously improve their ability to develop learning devices. If teachers can utilize diverse learning devices, they can avoid being trapped in a less varied learning situation that could make students feel bored. To address this issue, this research proposes an option for teachers and parents when introducing children to hijaiyah letter characters by using board books.

Board books are often a child's first introduction to the world of books. They introduce children to stories, literature, and printed words. Board books are made of sturdy cardboard, making them durable. Their size and material make them perfect for holding and turning pages. Board books are generally a child's first introduction to the world of books. They introduce children to stories, literature, and printed words. High-quality board books also introduce young readers to topics and engage them. Simple concepts like counting, opposites, animals, and types of vehicles are all suitable for books (Seslar, 2022).

Learning media suitable for children can vary; one example is board books. Board books are a type of picture book made primarily from thick paper resembling cardboard. These books are ideal for children under five years old or toddlers. Children's board books usually have colourful illustrations that are attractive and fun to look at (Humairo, 2023).

In conclusion, board books are an ideal introduction to the world of books for children. They introduce them to stories, literature, and printed words with sturdy materials and attractive, colourful illustrations, making them perfect for small hands learning to read and turn pages.

## **RESEARCH METHODS**

This study adopted a research and development methodology focused on product creation using an R&D approach, selected to create specialized products and measure their effectiveness (Sugiyono, 2017). Despite the availability of various research models, the researchers chose the model introduced by Reiser and Mollenda in the 1990s for instructional system design. The ADDIE approach, a structured and popular instructional system design model, was used in this research. The study location was at Jl. Williem Iskandar No. 7c Sidorejo Kec. Medan Tembung Kota Medan, with 25 students from grade 1 Makkah MIN 1 Kota Medan as trial subjects, consisting of 14 boys and 11 girls.

The initial analysis phase began on October 30, 2023, at Madrasah Ibtidaiyah Negeri 1 Kota Medan, specifically in grade 1 (Makkah Class). The first trial phase was planned for the beginning of the even semester 2024. The research subjects included using Boardbook Al-Qur'an Hadis, involving 25 students from grade 1 Madrasah Ibtidaiyah Negeri 1 Kota Medan and the Al-Qur'an Hadis subject teacher. The subject teacher used the product in the teaching and learning process, while the researcher acted as an observer during the learning process.

Based on initial observations, the researcher identified solutions to the issues related to this research. The next step was designing the discovery according to the pre-made plans. This included designing learning materials to introduce the characters of hijaiyah letters and their diacritical marks.

The researcher planned the production of the board book, which will have content based on the Al-Qur'an Hadith Grade 1 book of Madrasah Ibtidaiyah published by the Directorate KSKK Madrasah Ministry of Religion of the Republic of Indonesia in 2020 and related books on hijaiyah letter materials. The researcher also gathered materials to be referenced in developing the board book learning media.

#### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

The initial study findings at MIN 1 Kota Medan, obtained through observations and interviews with Ms Ngatiani S.Pd., revealed that the madrasah had complete learning facilities.

However, some teachers use conventional media like blackboards and student worksheets (LKS). In contrast, the first-grade class taught by Ms. Ngatiani utilized a more engaging approach, occasionally using PowerPoint with simple designs, according to her capability. She noted that first-grade Madrasah Ibtidaiyah students preferred visual learning filled with colours and images, making them more enthusiastic about learning. She believed that board books, with their attractive visuals, would significantly aid the Al-Qur'an Hadis learning process, especially in introducing hijaiyah letters and their diacritical marks.

After developing the initial product, the next step was the initial product testing phase. Material and media experts tested the board book to assess its feasibility, effectiveness, and practicality, followed by trials with the Al-Qur'an Hadis subject teacher and students.

Expert Validation, ResultsThe feasibility test for the Hijaiyah Letters board book for grade 1 at MIN 1 Kota Medan, was conducted by a material expert and a media expert, each with a PhD and more than five years of teaching experience. Additionally, one class teacher, an Al-Qur'an Hadis subject teacher with over ten years of experience and ASN status, and 25 students from grade 1 MIN 1 Kota Medan participated. The validation scores for the Hijaiyah Letters board book were given on a scale of 1-5.

Material Expert Validation: Dr. Irwan S M.Pd. assessed the learning materials' content accuracy, readability, and appropriateness. The board book received an 85% score, indicating it met the standards for use in Al-Qur'an Hadi's education.

Media Expert Validation: Dr. Siti Halima M. Pd. evaluated the board book's design and layout, including its size and structure, clarity of illustrations, and overall presentation. The board book scored 85.7%, meeting the high quality and usability criteria.



Figure 1. Cover Boardbook



Figure 2. Material Excerpt



Figure 3. Back Cover of the Boardbook

Teacher and Student Responses Teacher responses indicated that the board book was engaging and easy to use, making learning more enjoyable and efficient for students. The teacher noted the board book's organized and systematic presentation, facilitating a better understanding of the material.

Student responses were similarly positive, with many expressing that the board book made understanding hijaiyah letters and diacritical marks easier. The use of attractive images and a straightforward layout made the learning experience enjoyable and effective.

The difference in pre-test and post-test scores showed a significant improvement in students' understanding after using the board book, confirming its effectiveness as a learning too

## CONCLUSION

The developed board book went through the stages of planning, layering, production, and validation, receiving high validation scores from material experts, media experts, teachers, and students. The trial results showed a significant improvement in students' understanding of Al-Qur'an Hadi's material after using the board book. Therefore, this board book is an effective alternative for engaging and supportive learning in grade 1 at MIN 1 Kota Medan.

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