



The Importance of Entrepreneurship Education from an Early Age

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ABSTRACT

Background: It is important to give children the opportunity to learn entrepreneurship early on so that they have the knowledge and skills needed. Therefore, parents and educators need to understand their children's interests and talents before deciding whether they should learn entrepreneurship early on.

Purpose: This research aims to provide an understanding and overview of the importance of delivering entrepreneurship education from an early age, as well as recommendations for methods that are worth trying and using in early childhood education.

Design and methods: Qualitative research is used. The data collection technique that researchers use is the literature review method to examine the topics raised.

Results: The importance of improving the quality of entrepreneurship among the younger generation as one of the efforts to advance the economy and create jobs. This can be done through various means, such as the provision of training, curriculum development, and increased accessibility to resources and information on entrepreneurship. Other factors, such as providing encouragement and motivation to young people to take risks and develop creative ideas, are also important steps in creating a young generation that is a driving force in economic progress.

Keywords: Education, entrepreneurship, early childhood

Introduction

Early Entrepreneurship Education is an educational concept that aims to provide understanding and entrepreneurial skills to children from an early age. (Agustina, 2017), it is hoped that children can develop entrepreneurial attitudes and abilities from an early age so that they can become a generation that is creative, innovative and economically independent.

Early entrepreneurship education will enable children to learn how to think creatively, identify business opportunities, manage risks and develop new ideas. They will also be taught about the importance of hard work, perseverance and courage in facing challenges. Through this education, children are expected to have a strong foundation to start their businesses in the future. For example, a child who is taught entrepreneurship from an early age can start a small business by selling cakes or handicraft products in the neighbourhood. With proper guidance, the child can learn to manage his own company, handle finances, and promote his products effectively to his potential customers. So as to achieve success in entrepreneurship in the future. However, not all children who learn entrepreneurship early on will succeed in their endeavours. For example, a child may have talents and interests that are better suited for careers in other fields, such as the arts or sciences. Even if they are taught

entrepreneurship, the child may need help managing the business due to a lack of strong interest and motivation in the field.

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Therefore, parents and educators need to understand their children's interests and talents before deciding whether they should study entrepreneurship early on. Forcing children to learn something that does not match their interests and skills will only make them feel depressed and unhappy. (Muijs & Reynolds, 2010) Instead, let children explore their interests and talents first before deciding on the right educational path for them. This will help them achieve success and happiness in their future careers.

Framework of Thought

The concept of entrepreneurship from an early age is important to instil in children so that they can develop skills and interest in entrepreneurship. Through this approach, it is expected that children can learn to think creatively independently and have the passion to create business opportunities in the future. Learning entrepreneurship from an early age can be a strong foundation for children's future career success and happiness. Children will be better prepared to face challenges and develop their potential. (Ningrum, 2017).

They will learn to identify business opportunities, manage risks, and communicate well in various situations. In addition, learning entrepreneurship can also help children understand the value of money, work together in teams, and have a persistent attitude in the face of failure. All these skills will be very useful for them when they grow up, both in their careers and daily lives. Therefore, educators and parents need to provide support and opportunities for children to learn about entrepreneurship from an early age.

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For example, a child learning entrepreneurship early on can create a small business by selling cookies at school. With this experience, they learn about time management, interacting with customers, and calculating profits and losses from their venture. However, there are cases where a child may try to run their own small business but experience failure in managing the business. This can make them feel discouraged and lose interest in learning entrepreneurship in the future. Therefore, educators and parents need to provide the right support and appropriate mentoring so that children can learn from their failures and continue to develop their entrepreneurial skills. With the right support, children can learn that failure

is part of the learning process and that they can learn from their mistakes. With appropriate guidance, they can develop the mental resilience and passion to keep trying and learning to run their small businesses. Thus, they can become successful entrepreneurs in the future and continue to thrive in the business world.

Early Entrepreneurship Education provided to children is not only limited to their ability to start and manage a business but also involves the development of character and skills that are essential for success in the world of work. Through entrepreneurship education, children can learn about creativity, innovation, leadership, teamwork and interpersonal skills that will be useful in their future careers. (MM, 2022)

Entrepreneurship education can also help boost children's self-confidence and motivation to achieve their goals. Entrepreneurship education has long-term benefits that can help children become successful individuals and contribute positively to society. Through entrepreneurship learning, children will be familiar with the planning, execution and evaluation processes that are an important part of achieving success. Entrepreneurship education not only provides practical knowledge and skills but also shapes the character and mindset needed to succeed in the competitive world of work.

For example, with entrepreneurship education, children can learn how to create a business plan to sell products they make themselves. They can also understand the importance of managing finances and communicating with potential customers to expand their business reach. However, there are cases where a person has a good entrepreneurial education but needs more capital to start their business. External factors such as fierce market competition or changes in government regulations can also be barriers to success despite having a good entrepreneurial education. In addition to having adequate knowledge of entrepreneurship, it is also important to have access to sufficient capital and be able to anticipate market and regulatory changes. By understanding the external challenges, one may face, one can better prepare for risks and develop more resilient business strategies. Success in the business world depends not only on knowledge and skills but also on the ability to adapt and overcome obstacles that may arise along the way.

Methods

The research method used in this research is qualitative. The qualitative method is a research method that focuses on in-depth observation. (Riswanto et al., 2023) This method is used to examine natural object conditions, with the researcher as the key instrument. Qualitative research aims to understand phenomena holistically, such as behaviour, perceptions, motivations, and actions, in a special context.

The data collection technique that researchers use is the literature review method to examine the topics raised. Activities carried out in the library include reading, reviewing, and searching for library materials and research reports in the form of journals containing theories that have to do with research. The purpose of this literature review is to find in-depth and critical solutions to problems with library materials that are closely related. This library activity is carried out by collecting information from various library sources, which are needed as a source of thought in order to find new ideas in the form of a basis for deduction from existing knowledge and, in the end, a new theory in the form of a framework can be developed. In scientific research, a literature review is an important part of the overall research method steps. So, the literature sources obtained in this paper come from books, journals and articles that are related. Making a literature review includes the first stage, namely the sources that are used as a literature review and are in line with the writing. The second stage is that the content contained is adjusted in the existing literature sources. The

third stage of the source content must be summarised. The last stage of new thoughts and ideas needs to be explored as a study of material for research.

Findings & Discussion

The concept of entrepreneurship from an early age is important to instil in children so that they can develop skills and interest in entrepreneurship. Through this approach, it is expected that children can learn to think creatively independently and have the passion to create business opportunities in the future. Learning entrepreneurship from an early age can be a strong foundation for children's future career success and happiness. Children will be better prepared to face challenges and develop their potential. (Ningrum, 2017).

They will learn to identify business opportunities, manage risks, and communicate well in various situations. Entrepreneurial learning can also help children understand the value of money, work together in teams, and have a persistent attitude in the face of failure. All these skills will be very useful for them when they grow up, both in their careers and daily lives. Therefore, educators and parents need to provide support and opportunities for children to learn about entrepreneurship from an early age.

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The benefits of Early Entrepreneurship Education provided to children are not only limited to their ability to start and manage a business but also involve the development of character and skills that are essential for success in the world of work. Through entrepreneurship education, children can learn about creativity, innovation, leadership, teamwork and interpersonal skills that will be useful in their future careers. (MM, 2022) Entrepreneurship education can also help boost children's self-confidence and motivation to achieve their goals. Entrepreneurship education has long-term benefits that can help children become successful individuals and contribute positively to society.

Through entrepreneurship learning, children will be familiar with the planning, execution and evaluation processes that are an important part of achieving success. Entrepreneurship education not only provides practical knowledge and skills but also shapes the character and mindset needed to succeed in the competitive world of work. For example, with entrepreneurship education, children can learn how to create a business plan to sell products that they make themselves. They can also understand the importance of managing finances and communicating with potential customers to expand their business reach. However, there are cases where someone has a good entrepreneurial education but needs more capital to start their business. External factors such as intense market competition or changes in government regulations can also be barriers to success despite a good entrepreneurial education. In addition to having adequate knowledge of entrepreneurship, it is also important to have access to sufficient capital and be able to anticipate market and regulatory changes. By understanding the external challenges one may face, one can better prepare for risks and

develop more resilient business strategies. Success in the business world depends not only on knowledge and skills but also on the ability to adapt and overcome obstacles that may arise along the way. Thus, it is important for aspiring entrepreneurs to continuously improve their knowledge and skills through relevant education and training. In addition, they also need to build networks and cooperation with other business stakeholders to support their business growth. With a combination of knowledge, skills, access to capital and adaptability, one can increase the chances of success in the competitive business world.

Entrepreneurship education models for children also need to be strengthened to equip the younger generation with the skills and attitudes required to become successful entrepreneurs in the future. Through early entrepreneurship education, children can learn about the importance of creativity, innovation and perseverance in facing challenges in business. Thus, they will be ready to face the increasingly fierce global business competition in this digital era.

Case Study on the Implementation of Entrepreneurship Program in Primary Schools. (She & Nur, 2023) Entrepreneurship programs have been implemented as part of the education curriculum. Through this program, students are taught about basic business concepts, financial management, marketing, and communication skills that are important in the business world. Students are also given the opportunity to develop their business ideas and run small businesses in the school environment. This aims to train students to become independent and creative entrepreneurs from an early age. Examples of successful entrepreneurship education programs for children include programs such as Junior Achievement, BizWorld, and the Young Entrepreneur Institute. These programs provide opportunities for children to learn about entrepreneurship through the real-life experience of creating and running a small business. With early entrepreneurship education, children are expected to develop the creativity, innovation, and leadership skills needed to become successful entrepreneurs in the future. In addition, through the case studies of these entrepreneurship education programs, a holistic and interactive approach to learning can have a positive impact in shaping a young generation that is ready to compete in the global business world.

The influence of early entrepreneurship education on children's mindset and skills can be seen in their ability to identify opportunities, overcome challenges and take risks wisely. With a strong understanding of business concepts and the courage to try new things, children can build a solid foundation for success in the future. Through entrepreneurship education, children are also exposed to values such as hard work, perseverance and responsibility, which will help them become independent and responsible individuals. Early entrepreneurship education not only benefits children's cognitive development but also shapes positive character and mental attitude. Through this learning, children will be accustomed to thinking creatively, making decisions, and working hard to achieve their goals. This will help them to become individuals who are ready to face various challenges and opportunities in the real world.

The challenge faced in implementing entrepreneurship education for young children is how to present materials that are relevant and interesting to them so as to motivate them to learn and develop entrepreneurial skills. In addition, the role of teachers and parents is also very important in providing support and guidance to children in undergoing this learning process. With good cooperation between schools, parents, and communities, it is hoped that children will face future challenges with confidence and be able to deal with various complex situations.

Strategies to integrate entrepreneurship education into the early childhood curriculum involve collaboration between various stakeholders, including teachers, parents and the surrounding community. Concrete steps such as conducting training for teachers on entrepreneurship teaching methods, involving parents in learning activities at school, and organising workshops or seminars to introduce the concept of entrepreneurship to the community are effective first steps. Children will be able to continue to be stimulated and guided in developing their entrepreneurial potential from an early age.

The resources and tools available to teach entrepreneurship to young people need to be improved and expanded to make entrepreneurship education programs more effective. In addition, support from the government and related institutions is also required to create a conducive environment for the development of entrepreneurship among children. With concerted efforts from all parties, the younger generation can become more creative, innovative and independent in facing the challenges of the future.

A student who learns entrepreneurship early on might start a small business at school, such as selling snacks or handmade products. By engaging in these activities, students will learn to manage money, interact with customers, and solve problems that arise during the business process. However, children who focus less on entrepreneurship early on may need more time developing important academic skills, such as math and science. For example, a student who only focuses on small businesses at school may need to understand complex math concepts when faced with exams or academic assignments. This can result in problems in achieving the academic performance expected by parents and schools. Therefore, children need to find a balance between entrepreneurship and formal education in order to develop both aspects optimally. Thus, they can prepare themselves for a successful and sustainable future.

Recommendations for educators, parents and policymakers are to continue to strengthen collaboration and synergy in providing quality entrepreneurship education. This can be done through the provision of entrepreneurship training and workshops, the development of relevant curricula, and improved accessibility to resources and information on entrepreneurship. In addition, it is also important to encourage and motivate young people to take risks and develop their creative ideas. Thus, it is hoped that the younger generation can become the driving force in advancing the economy and creating jobs for the community.

Conclusion

From the description above, it is important to improve the quality of entrepreneurship among the younger generation in an effort to advance the economy and create jobs. This can be done through various means, such as the provision of training, curriculum development, and increased accessibility to resources and information on entrepreneurship. Other factors, such as providing encouragement and motivation to young people to take risks and develop creative ideas, are also important steps in creating a young generation that is a driving force in economic progress.

The implication for future research and practice is to continue to identify factors that can increase entrepreneurial interest and skills among young people. In addition, there is also a need to evaluate existing programs to see their effectiveness in increasing entrepreneurship in the community. The role of government and related institutions is also very important in providing support and facilities for aspiring entrepreneurs to succeed in business.

The final thought on the importance of early entrepreneurship education is that investing in early entrepreneurship education will bring long-term benefits to a country's economic development. By providing entrepreneurial understanding and skills to the younger generation, it is expected that more individuals with entrepreneurial spirit will be born and

able to create new jobs. In addition, entrepreneurship education can also help reduce unemployment and poverty, as well as increase competitiveness and innovation in the global market. Therefore, concrete and comprehensive steps in integrating entrepreneurship education in the formal and non-formal education curriculum need to be taken immediately to ensure a brighter future for future generations.

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