



## Innovation in Utilizing Household Waste in the Costume of the Angon Bocah Dance Caturtunggal Yogyakarta

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### ABSTRACT

This study aims to describe the innovation of utilizing household waste as materials for making costumes for the Angon Bocah dance for early childhood in Caturtunggal, Yogyakarta. The use of waste such as plastic bottles, food packaging, and other used materials is innovatively transformed into a creative alternative for creating dance costumes that are attractive and functional. In addition to reducing household waste, this innovation supports the background of the dance, which aims to foster environmental awareness and creativity among children and educators in utilizing recycled materials. The method used in this research is a qualitative descriptive approach. The results of the study show that the utilization of waste can produce unique, economical, and innovative dance costumes without reducing the aesthetic value of the Angon Bocah dance performance. Thus, the use of household waste as costume materials can become an innovation in arts learning while also supporting environmental preservation efforts.

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Environmental problems resulting from the increasing amount of waste, including household waste, have become a major issue that continues to receive attention in Indonesia, including the Caturtunggal Village area of Yogyakarta. Household waste such as plastic bottles, food packaging, and various types of single-use plastics are among the types of waste that have a significant impact on environmental pollution. Caturtunggal Village is an area in the Special Region of Yogyakarta, located in the Depok Subdistrict, Sleman Regency. Caturtunggal has a unique multidimensional character where rural and urban areas grow side by side, creating a rich social dynamic. The high population density in the Caturtunggal area causes the volume of household waste to continue to increase. Organic waste such as plastic, beverage bottles, and food packaging is the type of waste that is most difficult to decompose naturally and can cause environmental problems (Ministry of Environment and Forestry, 2022). Not all people are sensitive to their surroundings, and it is feared that if waste management is not instilled from an early age, it will lead to an increasing accumulation of household waste. This situation demonstrates the need for various innovative efforts to reduce waste and raise public awareness from an early age about managing and reusing waste generated in everyday life. One possible approach is through activities involving young children through the reuse of used goods into products with utility and aesthetic value.

Waste utilization activities not only play a role in reducing waste but can also be an educational tool to foster environmental awareness in the community. Instilling environmental values in early childhood can be done through a fun process because early childhood is the most appropriate time for developing character and habits (Hurlock, 1977). Children aged 2-7 years enter the pre-operational stage and, according to Jean Piaget, at this stage children learn through concrete activities, symbolic play, and movement exploration (Pakpahan & Saragih, 2022). Early childhood is at a stage of rapid development in various aspects, so it is necessary to design creative and fun learning activities to be able to stimulate children's development optimally. One education that can stimulate children in many aspects is art education. This is in line with the opinion of scientists who agree that art should be included as part of the curriculum from the early stages of child development (Nugraheni, 2022). Through art, children can develop creativity, self-expression, motor skills, and broaden their understanding of the world around them (Saputri et al., 2023). Arts education, including dance, is believed to stimulate six aspects of child development: moral-religious, physical-motor, cognitive, language, social-emotional, and artistic. Dance is taught to children for its purpose (Azizah, 2024; Sirait et al., 2025).

Arts education is considered important because it is an integral part of the cultural heritage of society, allowing for the free production of works in accordance with ideas and creativity (Directorate of Early Childhood Education, Ministry of Education and Culture, 2020). Effective arts education for children is characterized by the creation of conditions that provide children with opportunities to freely and uncontrolledly develop their sensitivity,

fantasy, imagination, and creativity (Azizah, 2024). A dance performance contains several supporting elements that will make the dance livelier. There are eight elements of dance: movement, space, time, energy, floor patterns, costumes and props, music, and stage design (Azahra & Aryani, 2024).

## LITERATURE REVIEW

Costumes are a crucial element in a performance. Making dance costumes is often expensive, necessitating innovation by utilizing locally available materials. Considering the primary concern, waste, the idea of repurposing waste emerged. Besides adding aesthetic value to dance performances, this also serves as a learning tool to instill environmental awareness from an early age. Several previous studies have shown that using recycled materials in learning activities can enhance children's creativity and provide meaningful learning. Research conducted by (Setyowati, 2021) shows that utilizing used materials as learning media can enhance and hone children's creativity, evidenced by children's active involvement in the learning process.

Furthermore, other research has shown that developing children's creativity through managing used plastic bottle waste can support the development of environmentally conscious and caring characters in early childhood (Ismanto, 2023). Most research focuses on handicraft activities or learning media that utilize used materials. Studies on the use of household waste in making dance costumes in early childhood learning are still relatively limited. Research integrating arts and environmental activities through the use of household waste is also rare. Angon Bocah Dance is a children's dance that depicts children's activities in everyday life, the movements in the dance have meaning and purpose to introduce children to regional culture. The use of used goods in this dance costume not only provides creative value in performing arts, but also becomes an educational tool for children to recognize that used goods or waste can be reused and children need to know the importance of protecting the environment. Based on this description, this study aims to describe the innovation of using household waste as an Angon Bocah dance costume for early childhood in Caturtunggal Yogyakarta as a form of contribution to the development of art learning in early childhood education, especially in integrating artistic creativity with environmental education through the use of waste.

## METHODOLOGY

The research method used in this study is qualitative with a descriptive approach. In this study, the researcher serves as the primary instrument, as stated in (Sugiyono, 2020) that the researcher is the key instrument, where the data obtained is used to examine the natural conditions of the object. This study uses a research approach that examines events holistically, not simply viewing events without reason or cause. The researcher conducts in-depth research into phenomena, collects data, uses theory, and interprets the data to draw conclusions.

Data collection techniques in this study will include observation, in-depth interviews, and documentation. Furthermore, this study will use source

triangulation to ensure data validity. The subjects in this study consist of three categories: bureaucracy, practitioners, and academics. The bureaucracy consists of the village administration and the ECE association as organizers with authority and involvement in the implementation. The practitioners consist of teachers, mentors, and children as parties directly involved in the creation, training, and implementation of the Angon Bocah dance. The academics consist of the dance creator/choreographer and those with expertise in ECE. Researchers triangulated sources to verify the validity of data or information from different perspectives, thereby reducing ambiguity and ambiguity that arise during data collection.

Observations were conducted to obtain valid data through direct and systematic observation. To obtain more comprehensive results, researchers continued data collection through interviews to obtain in-depth information from respondents. Interviews were conducted to understand the subjects' perspectives on their experiences. Documentation, including photos, videos, and documents, strengthened data validation. The data analysis stages in this study also referred to the interactive analysis model proposed by Miles and Huberman (Sujarweni & Arisudhana, 2025). Data analysis in this study utilized interactive data analysis that continued until the data was declared saturated and complete (Sugiyono, 2021). Researchers employed a coding process to help identify salient words or phrases. Coding was performed by assigning specific marks, labels, or categories to the transcribed data (Mahpur, 2022).

## **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

In Observations were carried out during the process of creating the Angon Bocah Dance until its implementation. The researcher observed how innovations were implemented in the Angon Bocah Dance. The results of the observations showed that there was active involvement from the Village and the Early Childhood Education Association in supporting the implementation of arts activities involving early childhood. Teachers were actively involved as people who played a role in providing direction to the children's movements that had been taught by the choreographer. During the Angon Bocah Dance process, the children's enthusiasm was seen in their involvement in every process. The Angon Bocah Dance has a main message and purpose as a form of invitation to protect the environment and introduce children to waste that can be managed properly.

The main innovation in the Angon Bocah Dance is the use of household waste as part of the Angon Bocah costume for early childhood in the Caturtunggal Village, Yogyakarta. This innovation was motivated by the increasing amount of household waste in the Caturtunggal area, especially inorganic waste such as plastic, used bottles, and packaging that are difficult to decompose. This condition encouraged the emergence of an idea from the Village and the Early Childhood Education Association together with the choreographer to utilize the waste as part of the children's dance costume. Researchers observed the costume-making process and observed the costumes used in the Angon Bocah Dance. The research findings indicate that utilizing

household waste not only produces attractive dance costumes but also provides a creative and educational learning experience for children.

The Angon Bocah Dance costumes utilize various types of household waste easily found in the surrounding environment. Utilizing waste is one of the village authorities' efforts to reduce the waste issue. It is hoped that introducing children to waste from an early age will foster greater awareness, thus minimizing the amount of difficult-to-manage waste in the long term. Simply put, utilizing waste as dance costumes for young children will receive special attention because children are more attracted to it than simply engaging with waste campaigns or disseminating information through posters or videos. The research findings indicate that the innovation process is not instantaneous but involves several stages involving various parties, including the choreographer, early childhood education teachers, the ECE association, the village government, and the community.

In the initial stage, the choreographer provides an overview of the costumes to be used and identifies types of household waste that can be reused, such as plastic bottles, bottle caps, and soap packaging. The types of waste are selected based on considerations of ease of processing and the aesthetic potential that can be produced.



Figure 1. Choreographer Shows Costume Design

Next, each Kindergarten/Early Childhood Education will collect their respective types of waste and clean them before they become part of the costume. During the making process, teachers are assisted by parents and the community to collect waste, clean, cut, and assemble it into dance costumes. In the implementation, children are not only the users of the costumes but are also involved in a limited way in the making process according to the children's abilities, this provides a direct learning experience for children about the utilization of waste. Looking at the aesthetic side, the Angon Bocah Dance costume shows interesting and innovative results.

Costumes that utilize household waste not only function to support the dance performance, but also have values that are able to support the dance theme. The Angon Bocah Dance costume has its own characteristics and uniqueness because its shape and texture are different from the dance costumes that children usually wear. The Angon Bocah Dance costume still pays attention

to safety aspects so that there are no parts that endanger children and do not interfere with children's comfort while dancing.



Figure 2. Angon Bocah Dance Costume

The research results show that innovative dance costumes for children have high educational value in environmental aspects. Early childhood is introduced to the basic concepts of waste management and the importance of protecting the environment. Children see clearly that waste is not always something useless and thrown away, but rather that waste can be reused to become something of value. The PAUD teachers involved said that the Angon Bocah Dance activity provides a fun learning experience for children. The learning process, packaged through dance activities, makes it easier for children to understand the concepts taught. Because children cannot only learn through verbal explanations but also need direct experience that involves movement, visuals, and creativity. Overall, the research results show that the use of waste in the form of dance costumes is an innovation that is not only creative but also relevant to current environmental conditions.

This innovation is able to integrate art learning with environmental education, thus providing benefits for early childhood. Thus, the use of household waste in dance costumes can be an alternative solution to reduce waste and can be an innovative learning medium in early childhood education. The Angon Bocah dance activity shows that dance can be developed not only as a means for children to express themselves but also as a contextual educational medium that is appropriate to the needs of society. The Angon Bocah Dance conveys a message about the environment. This reinforces the idea that dance can be developed into an educational tool that has values that can be instilled from an early age. The innovation of utilizing waste into dance costumes in the Angon Bocah Dance for early childhood aims to instill awareness and concern for the environment from an early age through direct experience, not only for the young children who perform the dance but also for the audience who see and enjoy this dance work. The use of household waste to create costumes is a form of implementation of environmental education that is practical and applicable.

This The findings of this study indicate that the innovation of utilizing household waste in the costume design of Tari Angon Bocah in Caturtunggal,

Yogyakarta, serves as an effective approach to integrating arts education with environmental awareness in early childhood education. This innovation not only addresses the issue of increasing household waste but also transforms it into a meaningful educational resource.

From an educational perspective, the use of recycled materials in dance costumes aligns with the characteristics of early childhood learning, which emphasize concrete experiences and active engagement. Children are introduced to the concept of recycling through direct interaction with materials, allowing them to understand that waste can be reused and has value. This process supports cognitive development, particularly in fostering symbolic thinking, as children reinterpret discarded objects into creative forms. From an environmental perspective, the findings highlight that introducing sustainability concepts through artistic activities is an effective strategy for early childhood education. Rather than relying solely on theoretical instruction, children learn through participation, which helps build awareness and positive attitudes toward the environment from an early age.

This supports the idea that environmental education should be embedded in everyday learning activities to be more impactful. Furthermore, the implementation of this innovation reflects the importance of collaboration among educators, community groups, and local authorities. The involvement of multiple stakeholders in Caturtunggal enables the successful execution of the program and demonstrates how community-based initiatives can support educational innovation. Use the household waste in dance costumes is not only a creative solution to environmental problems but also a valuable educational strategy. It contributes to the development of creativity, environmental awareness, and meaningful learning experiences for young children, while also promoting sustainable practices within the community.

The use of waste in the Angon Dance costumes for children is carried out through a simple process supported by parents, teachers, and the community. The costume creation process is carried out in stages, involving several parties. The teacher is first guided by the choreographer regarding the design of the costumes the children will wear. The teacher then provides information and coordinates with parents to help collect used materials that can be used as decorations. The materials are then cleaned and selected according to their needs. The local community also participates in collecting the types of waste to be used. Teachers and parents help each other decorate and assemble the waste into dance costumes. This is reinforced by an interview with one of the accompanying teachers, who reported that parents are actively involved in the costume-making process.

“... the costumes were also made by the parents, the teachers and staff were also involved...the parents really tried to figure out how to do it, so they bought it so each person bought a bottle to decorate the costume...” The Caturtunggal Village government also said that the trash costumes were there to answer the problem of trash, so that children know that “trash can be used for costumes to express that then flying trash can be attached to make a costume.”

This research reinforces the findings of previous studies that stated that utilizing waste in learning activities can provide meaningful learning experiences. The uniqueness of this research is that it can integrate waste utilization in the context of dance, particularly in supporting aspects of dance, namely costumes. The innovation of utilizing household waste in Angon Bocah Dance costumes has a significant contribution to the development of early childhood learning. This activity not only supports the development of children's creativity and artistic abilities but also instills environmental awareness and character from an early age.

## **CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The concept of the Angon Bocah dance is a colossal dance for early childhood with dance movements adapted to the characteristics of early childhood. The success of the Angon Bocah dance choreography is supported by choreographic elements including accompaniment, costumes, and props. Each choreographic element has an indirect value and meaning. The creation of costumes involving parents is a collaboration that supports the success of the performance. The props used are safe and have educational value. The use of household waste as material for making Angon Bocah dance costumes demonstrates innovation in arts learning for early childhood. Used materials can be processed into attractive and aesthetic dance costumes.

The use of waste as dance costumes worn by children provides experience and fosters awareness of protecting the environment from an early age. Thus, the use of household waste as costume material can be an alternative for innovative and environmentally friendly arts learning. Suggestions for the Village Government and the Village PAUD Association as the lowest level of government in the regional government structure can continue to support the initiation of crocodile activities that involve early childhood in a sustainable manner and this research can be used as a reference for educators and artists in creating works of art that not only emphasize aesthetic aspects but also contain educational and character values according to the needs of early childhood.

## **FURTHER STUDY**

Hopefully, the results of this study will benefit the development of arts learning in early childhood education and inspire people to utilize household waste as a creative and educational medium.

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