

## Visual Impact of Color on Children's Excitement Development, Making Exterior Wall Mural at Taruna Bakti Kindergarten Bandung

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### Abstract

*This Mural Painting Community Service was carried out in collaboration with the Bandung Taruna Bakti Kindergarten School with Fine Arts Study Program, Maranatha Women's Family Association, and Spectrum Wall Paint Industry as a material sponsor. The purpose of this mural creation activity is to bring the colorful space closer to the children's play area during breaks so that it have a positive impact on the children mental development. Children at the golden age of 0-8 years old have a rapid growth in cognitive, motoric and psychosocial aspects. The results of the study stated that children who received color stimulation continuously at the age of golden age would grow up to be strong individuals in facing various challenges and problems of life. The method used in this community service was to sketch the stylized forms of flora and fauna directly onto the wall like graffiti painting by using permanent black graffiti spray paint. Furthermore, the sketches of flora and fauna stylized forms are filled with striking colors, various textures according to their respective creativity with tinting technology wall paint media that is resistant to weather. The success of this activity is expected to be a driving force for adults to care for the kindergartens at their early childhood, so the next generation would have higher quality in the future.*

**Keywords:** *child development; color visual; mural; Taruna Bakti Kindergarten School*

## Introduction

The creation of a mural on boundary wall of Taruna Bakti Kindergarten School site was carried out on the basis of collaboration between Taruna Bakti Kindergarten School and Fine Arts Study Program, Faculty of Fine Arts and Design and Maranatha Women's Family Association. The implementation of sketching and finishing of murals was also carried out by involving Fine Arts students, so that students can socialize and practice their skills in painting wide and long wall beyond the canvas that is usually practiced in assignments on campus. Wall paint materials were obtained in collaboration with the wall paint manufacturer, PT Spectrum, who donated Spectrum More Than Just Color Tinting Gallon wall paint for coloring the inner boundary wall mural sketch of the site opposite the classrooms which separated by a long side terrace about 2 meters wide.



(source: Maranatha Women's Family Association documentation)

Fig. 1. Maranatha Women's Family Association before departure to the community service location at the Bina Bakti Kindergarten School, brought Spectrum wall paint and painting equipment

The boundary wall of the site for which this mural was made has a length of about 25-30 meters. On the surface of the inner exterior wall, a visualization of a brightly colored mural has been made, which has educational value as well as psychological value that can stimulate children's enthusiasm, bring cheerfulness and stimulate their intelligence. This mural-making activity was carried out as a form of dedication from the majority of UK Maranatha lecturers, employees and students to the community of Bina Bakti Kindergarten School, at the R.E.

Martadinata Street 93-95, Bandung. This Community Service activity was entitled 'Creating an Educational Environment with the Theme of Flora Fauna Archipelago Through Mural'. Lecturers and students get a place and time to carry out community service duty which are one of the duties of *Tri Dharma Perguruan Tinggi*. On the other hand, students have opportunity to apply the knowledge gained in college directly to users.

Students can test their abilities directly when practicing, student activity will give satisfaction and pride for their role in society. Taruna Bakti Kindergarten School received a mural that was in accordance with its educational function. The presence of flora and fauna world with bright colors has a positive effect on mental growth of students. As a reciprocal cooperation, the Taruna Bakti School provided lunch and snacks for lecturers, staff and students when carrying out the mural making process for 2 working days. The school prepared equipment such as ladders and buckets to divide the paint in moderate portions so that it was divided into various color needs.



(source: Maranatha Women's Family Association documentation)

Fig. 2. Maranatha Women's Family Association taking a photo with the Taruna Bakti Kindergarten School on the first day of community service



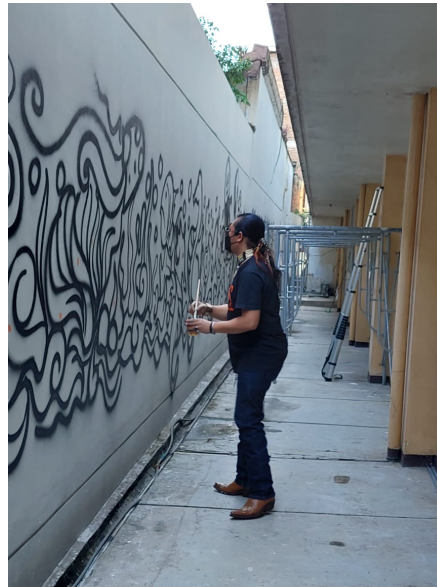
(source: Maranatha Women's Family Association documentation)

Fig. 3. Taking a photo with Taruna Bakti Kindergarten School, Fine Arts Study Program and Maranatha Women's Family Association

A 2 meters wide empty terrace next to the classrooms is usually used for children's play during recess. Various psychomotoric activities can be carried out in this hallway, such as running, playing hide and seek, jumping rope, jumping square and so on. The addition of mural with bright colorful flora and fauna visualizations would add value to the terrace space, not only for its aesthetic value but also of educational value and psychological value. Aesthetic value increased when the space becomes more attractive. Walls with plain broken white paint, after being given a mural it becomes a striking colorful wall. Stylized forms of marine flora and fauna are very suitable for the world of children who like simple, cute and easily recognizable shapes. The stylized shape of leaves, curled shoots of fern leaves, the repetition of the curved shape, invites a friendly, smooth and friendly impression, very liked by the children.

The presence of stylized forms of fauna and flora that are all curved and colorful, in large and long dimensions would make this playing terrace more lively. In their imagination, children seem to be playing together with the radiant presence of flora and fauna. Colors with a strong

intensity turned out psychologically able to give a positive influence on children's mental development.



(source: Maranatha Women's Family Association documentation)

Fig. 4. Empty terrace next to the classroom, children's playroom during recess, transformed into a space of aesthetics, educational and positive mental improvement

## Methods

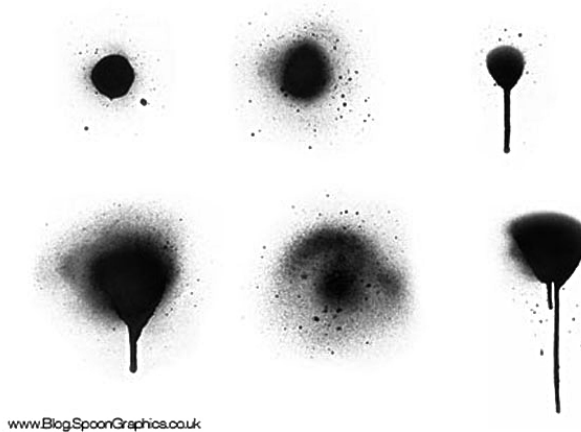
The method used in community service for the Taruna Bakti Kindergarten was a direct sketch method on the surface of the wall that has been painted plain white first. The sketch could also be started using a charcoal pencil and then had the outline overwritten using spray paint, but it takes a longer time to complete. So the lecturers and students worked without using pencils or charcoal but using portable spray paint which is commonly used for Graffiti Painting Techniques as shown in the picture below.



(source: <https://id-id.facebook.com/RJLondonPaint/photos/rj-graffiti-warna-tren/1130279250437000/>, downloaded 20-3-2022, at 10.00pm)

Fig. 5. RJ spray graffiti 300 ml

The sketch was made directly by pressing the spray button from a 300 ml RJ Spray Graffiti portable can, with a spray distance of 30-40 cm. The results of the spray line would be large if it is too close and tends to be excessive, so that the paint drips and spoils the desired design of the image. If the distance is too far the paint spray will spread in the air, the spray outline is difficult to control. Dimensions of large objects require adequate visibility in order to obtain the desired outline of the object, so wall painters need sensitivity and sharpness in recognizing shapes, proportions, composition and adequate mastery of the image field in order to obtain a proportional image object, flowing along the wall surface. The overall sketch was done on the first day of service activity by several Art and Design Faculty lecturers and students, using black as an outline of simple shapes and details.



(source: <https://th.bing.com/th/id/R.65800961d7f43695e9171203da57379e?rik=o1yIKJRM9SjTZw&riu=http%3a%2f%2fwowbrushes.com%2fpreview%2fspraypaint2.jpg&ehk=7ONymeJMnnnWXOE0Ks7EvyYL3C5cBIX8zaow290uEvs%3d&risl=&pid=ImgRaw&r=0>, downloaded 10-5-2022, at 07.00pm)

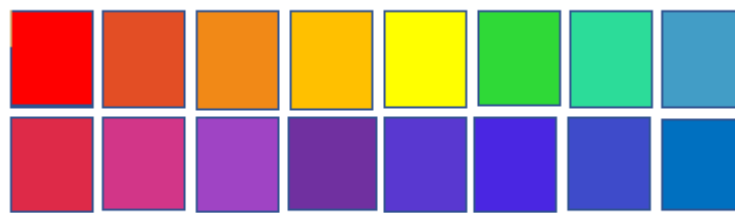
Fig. 6. Spray results are influenced by distance and speed of hand movement



(source: <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/826129125394169669/?mt=login>, downloaded 10-5-2022, at 07.00pm)

Fig. 7. Spray archieve

On the second day, the activity carried out was coloring the inside of the shapes' sketch that had been made on the first day. Shapes were filled with bright colors by lecturers, staff and students spread along the walls simultaneously. The material used was Spectrum tinted white wall paint mixed with bright colors concentrated in plastic cups. The painting technique used was mixing water diluent media with sufficient thickness so that it could be easily brushed onto the wall, would not clump like as when it was too thick and would not drip like as when it was too liquid.



(source: personal documentation)

Fig. 8. Color palette



(source: <https://keramikminimalis.blogspot.com/2019/06/info-penting-52-cat-tembok-spectrum.html>, downloaded 2-3-2022, at 15.00pm)

Fig. 9. Wall paint tinting spectrum



(source: Maranatha Women's Family Association documentation)

Fig. 10. Coloring activity was done simultaneously by lecturers, staffs, and students collaboration to complete the mural

At the time of painting the color, lecturers, staffs and students could make modifications to texture of straight lines, curved lines, shading and dots with different colors to fill in the blanks of flat areas that were felt too broad. The addition of this texture is for aesthetic appeal and to avoid boredom for the watchers.



(source: Maranatha Women's Family Association documentation)

Fig. 11. Colors and textures are presented according to the creativity of the devotees



## Results and Discussions

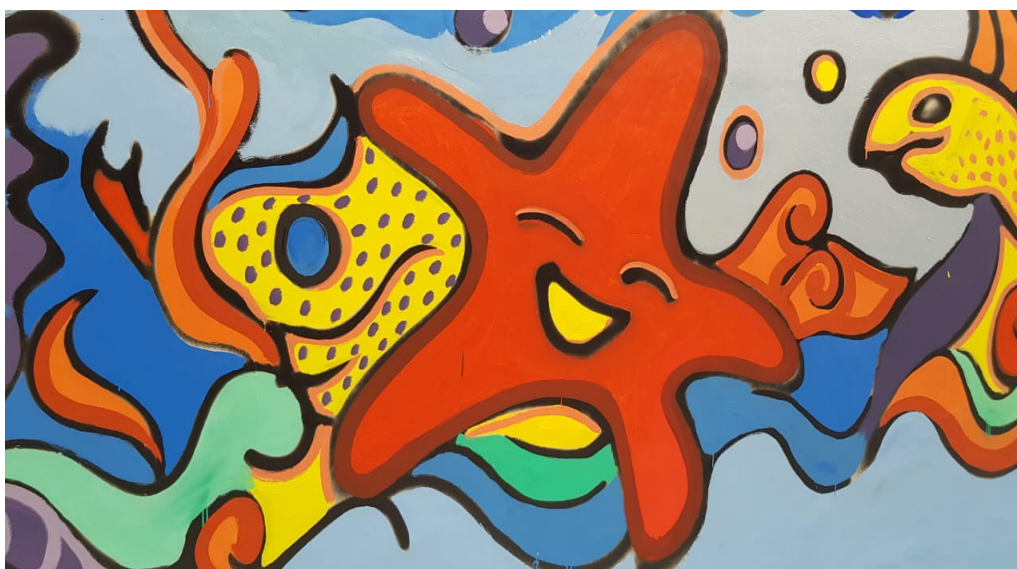
The world of children is the world of play, so many people say like that, children learn to recognize everything through playing. So many things that children don't know all come so overlapping, one after another. Everything is new for him, children learn all of it through playing (Hasan, 2010). For children, playing is a very serious activity, but it is interesting and exciting. The age of the first eight years is said to be the golden age which greatly determines the development of children in terms of cognitive, psychomotoric and psychosocial movements of children growing so fast. Children need a stimulus so that the growth of these three aspects can be optimal. Later when they grow up, children are able to become mature, responsible, tough individuals to face various life problems so that they are able to solve each challenge in an excellent manner. Adults need to help children in conditioning these stimuli so that tough personals can be developed in the future.

At the golden age, children's ways of acting, thinking and emotions are marked by a sense of freedom, high creativity and full of imagination. We can watch children do unusual things as understood by adults, such as drawing a car on a cloud, drawing a house that looks its interior, drawing a flower bigger than the human next to it, the sky in green color, people sitting around a table with their heads spread so that some of them head looks down, and so on. Adult humans need to understand children by giving them the freedom to do it freely without regulating, controlling and worrying about them. (Hawadi, 2004) Children who are given the freedom to express their creativity will grow up more courageous, not afraid, have a stand because they have exploration experience and find wealth beyond the usual limit.

Creativity is an ability that is very meaningful for children's lives, because through creativity, children will find the freedom as free and as wide as possible to solve the problems they face (Denissa, 2022). Each child has their own abilities and creativity, the role of adults is needed to help children explore creativity, find better ways. This exploratory experience leads children to find efficient and effective ways that are very useful for achieving success in the future. One of the games that can foster creativity is the color game. Presenting color in school wall murals in the children's play area, means bringing colors closer to the children's playroom, children will be in contact with color more often.

Children love colors, especially bright colors. Children like bright colors when choosing colors for their drawing objects, be it blue, red, yellow, orange or green. The colors they are familiar with are often limited to 12-18 crayon colors that come in a simple little box. Children do not understand that colors can be derived in many shades, can be mixed into very rich variations in both intensity and saturation. However, although the colors they have are limited, children really like colors, coloring activities are fun activities. Playing with colorful toys, reading color picture story books, playing in colorful spaces is very interesting and brings them in the imagination that stimulates creativity.

From the fact that has developed, we can conclude that the color game is a fun activity, very liked and exciting for early childhood. When children color pictures, their imagination and creativity will develop. Based on the analysis, it was found that playing activities with color, visualization of color objects and colorful play spaces are very useful in improving children's mentality. Children are more dominant in paying attention to color than model of cloths, paying attention to color than shape, so that presenting color is more valuable than complicated shape details. That is why simplified forms with rounded corners attract children's hearts. The colors displayed become wider so that the proportions of colors look more prominent.



(source: Maranatha Women's Family Association documentation)

Fig. 12. Color appears wider in form of simplification



(source: Maranatha Women's Family Association documentation)  
Fig. 13. Forms of simplification always attracts the child's heart

Early childhood psychology on the presence of colors around it in general can presented as follows (<http://www.tamagoostyle.com>):

1. Children who like bright colors such as primary colors, namely red, blue, yellow, and secondary colors, namely green, orange and purple. These colors will encourage children to tend to be active and aggressive in their activities.
2. Children who enjoy the experience of mixing colors make them more creative and able to develop their imagination than children who do not enjoy the process of mixing colors.
3. Children who like dim colors will tend to be quiet and passive.

Recognition of color is very important for adults to do to children from an early age of 0-8 years, because of its essential influence in growing the nerves of the brain and other nerves of the body are connected optimally. Recognizing colors is a fun experience, this experience will affect the behavior of children to be more passionate, not quickly become bored when learning and exploring. (Sari, 2004) Parents and teachers can also help introduce color to their children through the use of everyday objects such as toys, alternate use of mixed and matched clothes, picture story books. Vegetables and fruits can be also very interesting medium to introduce color, children can activate other senses through touch and kissing it one by one.



(source: <https://www.friso.co.id/sites/g/files/jgsirj126/files/inline-images/Kenalkan-Makanan-Beraneka-Warna.jpg>, downloaded 20-3-2022, at 10.00pm)

Fig. 14. Fruits and vegetables can be a color medium that educates children

Introducing colors correctly makes children not color blind, grow normally and are well educated in the future. Color recognition needs to be done continuously, about 20 minutes every day will encourage the brain's nerves to function optimally, children's knowledge will increase well because the various stimuli provided. Children are encouraged to pronounce the name of the color from the primary colors first and then increase to the secondary color, to tertiary color and so on. Children are also given the opportunity to use their sense of touch, sense of smell, sense of pronunciation when touching and recognizing colorful fruits. This will help children's intelligence to understand natural objects, pictures, exterior walls, colored interior rooms holistically, children's mentality also develops with increasingly complex and intact insights.



(source: <https://www.ikea.co.id/in/inspirasi/ide-dekorasi-kamar-tidur-anak>, downloaded 2-3-2022, at 10.00pm)

Fig. 15. The interior walls of the child's bedroom are orange, giving a cheerful spirit



(source: Maranatha Women's Family Association documentation)

Fig. 16. Playroom exterior mural that stimulates children's activity, the result of community service

Ladies and gentlemen who are members of the community service team also feel happy and proud to be able to complete the mural together. They could share taste and work together in mixing and matching colors to produce interesting compositions. This pride was reflected in the faces of joy when working on the mural and feeling of satisfaction after it was finished, also for the manager and teacher of Taruna Bhakti Kindergarten as recipients of the service after seeing the result. They were really satisfied and very grateful.

## Conclusion

Community service with the theme of Visual Effects of Color on Children's Excitement Development, Making of an Exterior Wall Mural at Taruna Bakti Kindergarten, Bandung has gone well. The results of the mural are considered interesting and get appreciation from the users. This exterior wall was successfully implemented through the cooperation of all parties, namely Fine Arts Study Program, Maranatha Women's Family Association, the Bina Bakti Kindergarten School and Spectrum Wall Paint Industry as sponsors. Filling the empty exterior walls with colorful mural paintings is the right thing to do. The wall which is the boundary of this site has a side terrace of 25-30 meters long with a terrace width of about 2 meters bordering the walls of the Kindergarten classrooms with glass windows. This terrace is usually used by Kindergarten children to play during recess.

Presenting colored mural walls means bringing colors closer when children play so that useful education continues. Based on research, color has a very positive effect for ages 0-8 years or golden age, as a stimulus that grows the nerves of the brain and other body requirements to be optimally connected. Recognizing a series of colors from an early age is a fun experience, children's behavior is more cheerful and more passionate so that it encourages children not to get bored easily when learning. Children have a strong urge to explore because of their great curiosity. A situation like this becomes a valuable treasure, children will have a capital to be able to face various challenges and difficulties in the future.

This community service will be seen and enjoyed by many people, in the future it can be a model that can be explored better in other places. Spaces where children gather need a lot of attention such as children's recreation areas, children's swimming pools, children's reading parks, pediatrician waiting rooms, children's hospitals to children's bedrooms are potential places. A well-designed colorful wall mural has accidentally become a space where we can do a lot for the younger generation. Adult humans who do much for the mental development of early childhood will transform the nation's intelligence in the future.

Finally, may the Almighty God bless all the good intentions and work efforts that the team have started to serve as role models that can be continuously developed. This mural painting with the theme Flora and Fauna of the Archipelago can benefit many parties and there will always be continuous improvement in various fields of research and service. Amen.

## Acknowledgments

We would like to thank Taruna Bakti Bandung Kindergarten School for providing the opportunity for lecturers, staff and students who are members of the Fine Arts Study Program, Faculty of Fine Arts and Design and the Maranatha Women's Family Association, Maranatha Christian University to carry out Community Service Activities. We also thank the sponsors of the Spectrum Wall Paint Industry who have donated their wall paint products as the main material for making this mural. Without the availability of the Tinting Technology Spectrum Wall Paint donation, this community service activity cannot be carried out. Community service activities are part of the duties of lecturers in carrying out *Tri Dharma Perguruan Tinggi*. The implementation of this service activity of making colored wall murals can fulfill the obligations of lecturers properly.

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