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Implementation of Sky Parenting in Educating Children to Increase Interest in Reading: A Case Study of a Muslim Family in Balai Baru Kuranji Padang West Sumatera

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Abstract

This study examines parental care's impact on implementing child prayer discipline. The discipline of prayer includes technical aspects of worship and a strong understanding and commitment to religious values. Through a qualitative approach, this study highlights the positive role of sky parenting in stimulating children's interest in reading through the introduction of religious reading materials and examples of parents who love spiritual literature. This research is located in Balai Baru Kuranji, Padang, West Sumatra. After collecting the data, the research analysis stage begins with data categorization and coding to identify emerging patterns and themes related to sky parenting practices and educate children to incrase interest in reading. Furthermore, this study uses a thematic analysis approach to explore the relationship between sky parenting practices and educating children to incrase interest in reading. Finally, the study compiles the findings into a coherent narrative and produces conclusions. The scope of this research includes several key aspects: (1) Identification of Sky Parenting strategies and techniques applied by the family in educating children, (2) Analysis of the impact of the application of Sky Parenting on children's interest in reading, (3) Factors that support and hinder the success of this method, and (4) The role of Islamic values in the implementation of Sky Parenting. The conclusion of this study reinforces that sky parenting, with a focus on spiritual education, can be an effective strategy in increasing children's interest in reading, opening opportunities for better religious literacy development in the future. The practical implications of this research can provide valuable guidance for educators, parents, and communities to strengthen children's literacy by applying skyparenting principles.

Keywords

Sky Parenting; Muslim Family; Islamic Education; Children's Reading Interest; Parenting

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1. INTRODUCTION

Reading allows a person to acquire knowledge and information and develops critical thinking, creativity, and communication skills (Wahid et al., 2021). For children, a strong interest in reading can open the door to a world entire of imagination and knowledge and improve their academic performance



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(Putri et al., 2021). Reading also plays a vital role in shaping children's character and morals because books teach them about values, ethics, and various perspectives on life. In this digital age, where information is available in various formats, good reading ability remains essential for understanding and utilizing information effectively (Andri et al., 2021). Therefore, instilling an interest in reading from an early age is a priority that cannot be ignored, especially in the context of children's education in the family.

Reading habits should be given and instilled in children as early as possible (Pangestu, 2019). Reading is the heart of education; currently, the demand for literacy is not enough to be able to read without being supported by reading traditions. Reading becomes the daily needs and activities of every human being (Putro et al., 2022). Reading is also essential in the increasingly complex life of society. Every life involves reading activities, so the ability to read is a demand for the reality of daily life because by reading, you will get various kinds of information (Nur'ani, 2021).

Reading is one of life's most important basic skills, affecting various aspects of the development of individuals and society (Rahmi & Dafit, 2022). One factor that influences children's interest in reading is the role of parents in applying the appropriate parenting approach (Cahyani & Rasydah, 2020). Sky parenting, which integrates religious values in forming children's character, offers great potential to increase children's interest in reading (Aprily et al., 2021).

The location of the study, Balai Baru, Kuranji, Padang, West Sumatra, was chosen because this area has strong cultural and religious characteristics, which is very relevant to the focus of research on Sky Parenting in Muslim families. The region also shows variations in parenting and educational practices, providing a rich context for exploring how Sky Parenting's approach is applied in increasing children's interest in reading. In addition, the selection of Muslim families as research subjects allows researchers to observe the integration of Islamic values in the parenting and education process, which can provide unique and valuable insights into the effectiveness of these methods in specific cultural and religious contexts. The existence of an active and diverse community in Balai Baru also supports comprehensive and in-depth data collection so that the results of this study can be more representative and applicable in a similar setting.

The area around the Balaibaru Kuranji Grand Mosque, West Sumatra, is unique in the context of this study. In addition to being a place of worship, the mosque is also a center of religious and cultural activities in the local community. In this context, case studies of families living around mosques can provide deep insight into the influence of sky parenting on increasing children's interest in reading. In an era where technology dominates everyday life, children's interest in reading is challenging (Prawiyogi et al., 2021). Many children tend to be glued to gadget screens and have less interest in traditional reading activities (Mutiara & Noorgianib, 2022). Therefore, the role of parents and the parenting approach can be the key to building children's interest in reading from an early age.

Data from the Central Statistics Agency (BSP) shows that Indonesia's population in 2023 will be 278.69 million (Rizaty, 2023). Unfortunately, this is inversely proportional to the amount of interest in reading. According to UNESCO data, only 0.001% of Indonesians are interested in reading. This means that out of 1000 Indonesians, only 1 likes and actively reads (Annur, 2023). In addition, based on a survey conducted by the Program of International Student Assessment (PISA) in 2019, Indonesia's reading interest ranks 62nd out of 70 countries. In other words, Indonesia is included in the 10 countries that have the lowest literacy rate among the countries surveyed (Annur, 2023).

Parents have an important role as agents of children's character formation, including shaping children's reading interests (Shobihah & Walidah, 2021). Sky parenting, which includes religious values in child development, can provide a solid moral foundation, including appreciating the value of reading as a positive activity (Mukti et al., 2023). The independent variable in this study is applying the Sky Parenting method, which involves loving, educating, and fun parenting strategies and integrating Islamic values into the educational process. The independent variable in this study is applying the Sky

Parenting method, which involves loving, educating, and fun parenting strategies and integrating Islamic values into the educational process.

The dependent variable is children's reading interest, measured through the frequency, duration, and quality of their reading activities. The relationship between these two variables was analyzed to understand how the Sky Parenting approach can motivate children to be more interested and involved in reading activities. This study also considers supporting factors such as the role of parents, family environment, and access to reading materials that affect the effectiveness of the application of this method. Good literacy in children includes reading skills and an interest and penchant for engaging in reading activities. Children's interest in reading significantly impacts their future learning ability, enriches their horizons, and opens up wider life opportunities (Rahmi & Dafit, 2022). Therefore, we must understand the factors that can influence and increase children's interest in reading.

Education and child development are two inseparable things in shaping their character and potential in the future (Aziz et al., 2021). One of the main factors that influence child development is the role of parents, including parenting styles applied in daily life (Nurlatifah et al., 2020). In this context, the sky parenting approach or "sky parenting" is of particular concern because it integrates religious values in educating children. Sky parenting, an educational approach that integrates religious values in educating children, is considered to have great potential to be a critical factor in increasing children's interest in reading (Rahmatullah & Marpuah, 2022). This study will be conducted around the Balaibaru Kuranji Grand Mosque, Padang, West Sumatra, which is the center of religious and social activities of the community. Involving families living around this mosque allows us to explore the role of sky parenting in the context of rich religious and cultural values.

This study aims to determine the concept of sky parenting to increase children's interest in reading in families living around the Balai Kuranji Grand Mosque, Padang, West Sumatra. An overview of parenting that has succeeded in increasing children's interest in reading. The uniqueness and novelty of this research lies in the interdisciplinary approach that combines the concept of modern parenting with Islamic values in the context of the Muslim family. This research not only focuses on the technical aspects of Sky Parenting but also explores how religious values can be harmoniously integrated to increase children's interest in reading. In addition, using an in-depth case study on a family in Balai Baru, Kuranji, provides specific insights into family dynamics and parenting practices in a distinctive cultural and religious environment, which has rarely been discussed in previous studies. Thus, this research offers new perspectives and practical solutions relevant to other Muslim families in similar contexts.

This research has similarities with the theme of previous research, namely research from (Niklas et al., 2020) entitled "The Home Literacy Environment as a Mediator Between Parental Attitudes Toward Shared Reading and Children's Linguistic Competencies". Then, research work from (Chavez et al., 2023) entitled "Parental support strategies and motivation in aiding their children learn the English language." Finally, the study was entitled "The Role of Parents in Increasing Reading Interest in Elementary School-Age Children" by (Aysah &; Maknun, 2023). The similarity of the research theme is parenting in increasing children's interest in reading.

This study has a gap in research that lies in the literature on childcare, especially in the context of integrating modern parenting methods with Islamic values. Most previous studies have tended to focus on traditional parenting or modern parenting without paying attention to the incorporation of religious elements. This study is unique in that it examines how Sky Parenting, a modern parenting method that emphasizes character-building and moral education through fun activities, can be applied effectively in Muslim families who greatly value their religious values. This differs from other parenting studies that may not consider religious aspects or focus solely on conventional parenting methods, thus making a significant new contribution to our understanding of childcare dynamics in specific cultural and religious settings.

2. METHODS

This research is a qualitative approach to deepen the understanding of parental care in increasing children's interest. The research design used is a case study, allowing researchers to investigate this phenomenon deeply and contextually, unearthing deep insights from the parent and child perspective. The location of the study is in the environment around the Balai Baru Grand Mosque, Kuranji, Padang, West Sumatra, as shown in the picture below:





Figure 1. Balibaru Grand Mosque, Kuranji, Padang, West Sumatra

The subjects of this study were parents and children interested in reading. The subjects were selected purposively, considering variations in parenting approaches and children's reading interests. The identity of the source is detailed in the following table:

No.	Name	Number of Children and their Age
1	VRA Family	3 (12 Years, 10 Years, and 6 Years)
2	KSF Family	2 (13 Years and 11 Years)
3	AL family	2 (14 years and 10 years)
4	NAA Family	3 (18 Years, 15 Years, and 12 Years)

Table 1. List of Research Participants

Data collection techniques use interviews, observation and document analysis. The collected data will be analyzed using a thematic qualitative analysis approach. This process involves transcription of interviews, recording of observations, and analysis of documents. The data were then grouped into themes that emerged naturally from the participants, allowing researchers to understand the key factors influencing the implementation of children's prayer discipline. The first step is the initial coding to identify the units of meaning relevant to the elements of Sky Parenting and the child's prayer discipline. These codes are then grouped into key themes such as parental example, effective communication, emotional support, and routine consistency. Thematic analyses were conducted to find patterns and relationships between these themes, which explains how Sky Parenting affects a child's prayer discipline. Data triangulation with various sources of information is carried out to ensure the validity and reliability of the findings. In addition, providing opportunities for participants to provide feedback on research results can also increase the validity of the data. The limitations of this study will discuss the Sky Parenting application, How to increase children's interest in reading, the influence of Sky Parenting on children's interest in reading, how to implement it, and the impact of Sky Parenting

on children's interest in reading. This research will adhere to the ethical principles of the research, including obtaining permission from participants, maintaining the confidentiality of information, and ensuring that participants consent for their information to be used.

3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

Application of Sky Parenting

Sky Parenting is parenting based on divine values. Parenting is based on divine values, parental equanimity, and taking technical causes to support success in parenting (Aprily et al., 2021). The primary key in heavenly parenting is faith, asking for help, and involving God in every situation (Gulo et al., 2022). Parenting given by parents must not override God because children are gifts and commissions, and all aspects of this life are related to the Creator (F. D. Putri et al., 2022).

3 (three) principles are carried out in Sky Parenting in parenting. The first is to put forward the primary key, namely nurturing based on divine values; all processes are centered on God, and parents have closeness to God. Second, there is a need for parental tranquility. Third, Take the cause of the best parenting pattern.

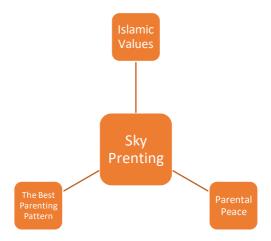


Figure 2. Basics in Sky Parenting

Parents who have closeness to Allah SWT, are believed to achieve tranquility. So from this calm condition will come various benefits in parenting (Zaini, 2020). Calmness is an important factor for parents in parenting their children. So sky parenting includes the importance of peace of mind for parents in parenting their children. When someone has calmness, it will be easy for him to carry out excellent and appropriate parenting methods (Manik et al., 2021). According to Shaykh Abdurrarazaq bin Abdul Muhsin Al Badr, if Allah has given blessings to His servant, in the form of equanimity in the form of a spacious chest calm, Allah will facilitate his affairs, will be realized for the servant mashalih (various benefits), various virtues of religion and the world, get the intended funds what is the target, his worship becomes easy, obedience is easy, allows him to pay attention to his benefits and interests, easy in educating children (Zaini, 2023).

Increase Children's Interest in Reading

At a very young or early age, children may still not understand the importance of reading (Furenes et al., 2021). Children who love reading can develop a love for learning; parents help children develop reading skills and a love of reading by filling their world with reading (Støle et al., 2020). Parents interact with it, reading and showing pictures in books.

According to Anita Rahmawati (2022), the way to increase the intensity of children's reading is to

read stories or knowledge books to children. Then, alternately, have the child read aloud. Create a family reading time where everyone focuses on reading for 20 minutes daily. If they are happy and feel good, their actions will be good. Parents are inspiring kindness to them.

Understanding Reading Interest means high inclination and excitement or great desire for something (Dong et al., 2020). Interest understood and used by people so far can affect the quality of student learning outcomes (Brodin & Renblad, 2020). The following is an increase in children's reading interest that parents can do at home, including:

- a. In this case, of course, someone interested in a field will find it easier to learn the field. Even if a person can learn something, he will not be able to follow the learning process if he is not interested.
- b. Children's interests can arise from instinctive development, intellectual functions, environmental influences, experiences, habits, and education. Therefore, a person's interest must be fostered and directed to achieve the desired goals, especially in learning. To increase one's interest, education experts argue that the most effective way to increase interest is to tap into an interest that already exists in students. For example, if students are interested in car racing, before teaching acceleration material, it is necessary to tell a little about the ongoing car racing, then little by little, directed to the actual subject matter. In addition, it can also be done by forming interests (Desy et al., 2020).

The Influence of Sky Parenting in Increasing Children's Interest in Reading

Sky parenting significantly increases children's interest in reading through an approach that focuses on spiritual and religious values. As the results of interviews with NAA and KSF families who said the following:

"As parents, we try to create an environment conducive to reading. We provide books that are interesting and appropriate for children's age provide a comfortable reading place, and show interest in children's reading activities. Furthermore, we teach children to get used to reading from an early age by reading story books, taking children to the library, and telling inspirational stories" (NAA Family Interview).

"Parents should be able to be good role models for children by showing interest in reading activities and making reading a part of daily life. So, we give an example with parents who also like to read, so that later imitated by children. Not only telling children to read but parents are lazy to read" (KSF Family Interview).

"We always provide motivation and support to children to read. Parents can give praise and rewards when children read well, as well as help children overcome difficulties in reading. In addition, we associate reading with Islamic values. They tell the stories of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and his companions and teach children about the importance of reading the Qur'an" (VRA Family Interview).



Figure 3. VRA Family Interview

The interview results above show that religious texts are often very effective learning tools in this context. Parents who practice sky parenting tend to introduce children to readings that include religious teachings, providing opportunities for children to engage in deep and meaningful reading activities.



Figure 4. KSF family interview

Furthermore, sky parenting helps accustom children to reading consistently through activities related to spiritual values. Religious books, stories, or literary materials containing moral messages are often preferred, creating positive reading habits early on. The importance of parental role models in parenting sky also cannot be ignored. Parents who show enthusiasm for religious or spiritual literature set a positive example, encouraging children to love and appreciate reading. This example creates a solid emotional bond between a child's interest in reading and the values instilled in parenting the sky.



Figure 5. AL Family Interview

The influence of celestial parenting is limited to introducing religious reading materials and creating a deeper understanding of moral and ethical values (Adnan, 2020). Children who grow up with this approach tend to read to understand the meaning behind words, delving into the spiritual values contained in religious texts. Sky parenting also plays a role in building a positive literacy environment at home (Bayot et al., 2021). Parents who provide a variety of religious and spiritual reading materials create an atmosphere that stimulates children's interest in reading (Sinamo & Herawati, 2023). Children feel comfortable and motivated to engage in reading activities with this support.



Figure 6. NAA Family Interview

Finally, sky parenting opens the door to developing children's holistic understanding of literacy (Putro et al., 2022). Children are fixated on the technical aspects of reading and are taught to reflect, consider, and incorporate spiritual values in their reading activities (Utari & Hamid, 2021). This encourages the development of a more profound and sustainable interest in reading throughout the child's life. Based on the results of the interview show that Sky Parenting has five positive influences in increasing children's interest in reading, as can be illustrated as follows:



Figure 7. The Influence of Sky Parenting in Increasing Children's Interest in Reading

Supporting and Inhibiting Factors of Sky Parenting in Increasing Children's Interest in Reading

Supporting and inhibiting factors are crucial elements in sky parenting, which aims to increase children's interest in reading. One of the main supporting factors is the selection of reading materials relevant to religious and spiritual values. Parents who understand a child's spiritual needs tend to provide books that include religious stories, scriptures, or other religious literature, providing a solid foundation for building a child's interest in reading.

As said by VRA families interviewed on January 17, 2024, regarding supporting factors in increasing children's interest in reading through sky parenting:

"We provide reading books for children at home. We buy children's books such as prophetic stories, daily prayer guides, prayer reading books, and children's practice books for sholeh. As parents, we always take the time to accompany children to read books to build interest in reading from an early age" (VRA family interview, 2024)

In addition, the role model of parents is also a significant supporting factor. Parents who actively

love religious and spiritual reading create an environment where a child's interest in reading can flourish. This example powerfully conveys that reading religious material is valued and accepted in the family environment.

However, inhibiting factors need to be considered, such as the lack of religious reading materials appropriate for the child's age. If parents cannot adapt reading material to the child's level of understanding, this can be an obstacle to creating optimal reading interest. In addition, academic pressures and hectic extracurricular activities can also be inhibiting factors, leaving limited time to focus on religious literacy.

As said by the AL family interviewed on January 17, 2024, regarding the inhibiting factors in children's interest in reading through sky parenting:

"We struggle to find age-appropriate books, most of which are sold in the bookstores we visit are for adult reading. We hope that there will be additional book reference sources for children's reading, especially books related to literacy for children" (AL Family Interview, 2024)

A lack of in-depth understanding of a child's needs and preferences in a religious context can also be an inhibiting factor. Parents who do not understand children's reading interests well may have difficulty choosing appropriate reading material, hindering the development of children's reading interest in religious and spiritual fields. By understanding these factors, we can design a sky parenting approach that is more effective and follows the needs of children in increasing their interest in reading in religious and spiritual contexts.

Implementation of Sky Parenting in Increasing Children's Interest in Reading

The implementation of sky parenting in increasing children's interest in reading is an approach that focuses on developing spiritual and religious values through reading activities. First, parents who apply sky parenting often choose reading materials that include religious stories, scriptures, or other spiritual literature that can stimulate children's interest in reading. This selection aims to provide a reading experience related to religious values instilled in the sky parenting approach (Syafrina, 2020).



Figure 8. Implementation of NAA Family Sky Parenting in Increasing Children's Interest in Reading

Furthermore, the habit of reading with children becomes an essential part of the implementation of sky parenting. Parents choose to read or read with children, making reading a moment of sharing and forming a close emotional bond. This creates a positive environment where children's interest in reading is strengthened through interaction and discussion of spiritual values (Snowling et al., 2020).

The importance of parental role models is also reflected in the implementation of sky parenting. Parents who show enthusiasm and interest in spiritual or religious readings set a positive example for children (Anderson et al., 2021). They are seen as figures who appreciate and emphasize the importance

of reading in a religious context, motivating children to follow in such positive footsteps. The KSF family likened in the interview as follows:

"In educating children to be interested in reading from an early age, parents need to be figures for children. That is, parents need to give examples of liking to read first. So we give an example with parents who also like to read so that later imitated by children. Not only telling children to read but parents are lazy to read" (KSF Family Interview).

In addition, reading activities integrated into daily activities become an essential aspect of sky parenting—for example, inserting time to read religious stories before bed or making reading a part of family rituals. Thus, reading is considered an obligation and a fun and meaningful part of the child's daily routine. This is as stated by the NAA family in the interview as follows:

"We make it a habit to read books before children go to bed. Usually, we read alternately with the child or child reading then the parents explain the meaning of the reading. Books read before bed vary, such as Islamic storybooks or Islamic fairy tales" (NAA Family Interview)

Discussion

In Islam, children's education is a great responsibility for parents, including developing children's interest in reading. Several verses of the Qur'an guide and motivate parents to pay attention to children's education, including reading interest. One of the relevant verses is Surah At-Tahrim (66:6), which reads:

It means: "O believers, preserve yourselves and your families from the fires of hell whose fuel is man and stone." (QS. At-Tahrim: 6)

This verse emphasizes to believers to pay attention to the salvation of themselves and their families from the torments of hell. In the context of children's education, this can be interpreted as the responsibility of parents to direct their children to the right path, including in reading. In addition, some verses show the importance of science and learning in Islam, such as Surah Al-'Alaq (5-96:1), the beginning of the first revelation to the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). The verse is:

اقُرَأْ بِاسْمِ رَبِّكَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ خَلَقَ الْإِنسَانَ مِنْ عَلَقٍ اقْرَأْ وَرَبُّكَ الْأَكْرَمُ الَّذِي عَلَّمَ بِالْقَلَمِ عَلَّمَ الْإِنسَانَ مَا لَمْ يَعْلَمْ عَلَّمَ الْإِنسَانَ مَا لَمْ يَعْلَمْ

It means: "Read by (calling) the name of your God who created (all creatures). He has created man from a lump of blood. Read it, and your Lord is merciful. Who teaches (man) through the medium of a pen. He teaches man what he does not know." (QS. Al-'Alaq: 5-1)

This verse emphasizes the importance of reading and learning and affirms that Allah teaches man with a pen, illustrating the primacy of science and learning in Islam. Therefore, as parents, guiding children to love reading and learning is part of the educational responsibility given by Allah SWT to humans. Paying attention to these verses, parents are expected to see the importance of guiding children in developing an interest in reading because reading is a window to the world that opens access to better knowledge, understanding, and self-development.

Although sky parenting provides many advantages, challenges can also arise. Daily activities and modern lifestyle changes can hinder time for reading activities, including reading religious materials. Therefore, it should be wisely integrated into the daily schedule. Finally, continuous evaluation of children's reading interests is also essential (van Bergen et al., 2021). Parents can adjust their sky-

parenting approach to stay relevant and strengthen their children's interest in reading in the long run by paying attention to children's responses to different types of religious reading materials.

The Impact of Sky Parening in Increasing Children's Interest in Reading

The implementation of sky parenting significantly impacts children's interest in reading through an approach that focuses on religious and spiritual values (Aziz et al., 2023). This approach introduces children to religious readings with deep meaning and moral messages (Lubis et al., 2023). By stimulating a child's understanding and reflection on spiritual values, sky parenting creates the foundation for a more profound interest in reading.

The results of observational data that the researchers found related to the positive impact of sky parenting appear through the choice of reading materials adjusted to child development. Parents who apply sky parenting tend to choose readings relevant to the child's age and interests, making the reading process more exciting and relevant. This helps form positive experiences related to reading. Furthermore, sky parenting harnesses the power of parental example. Parents who actively read religious or spiritual materials set a positive example, encouraging children to engage in reading activities more. This example strengthens the bond between children's interest in reading and the upheld spiritual values.

The importance of a holistic approach in sky parenting also has a positive impact on increasing children's interest in reading. Children are taught to read mechanically and reflect on and understand the meaning behind words. This gives a new dimension to children's reading interest, which is not only limited to technical aspects but also involves the development of critical thinking (Chavez et al., 2023). The striking impact of sky parenting is also reflected in creating a positive literacy environment at home. Parents who provide a variety of religious reading materials create an atmosphere that stimulates children's interest in reading. This environment provides positive support for developing children's interest in reading (Syafrina, 2020).

With sky parenting, children gain a deeper understanding of moral and ethical values. They read to find meaning and understand religious teachings or spiritual values contained in reading materials, forming character and positive attitudes towards life. Finally, the impact of sky parenting in increasing children's interest in reading creates a positive relationship between reading and spiritual development. Children who grow up with religious values through sky parenting tend to see reading as a spiritual journey and intellectual exploration that brings happiness and fulfillment. This creates a sustained and meaningful interest in reading throughout their lives.

4. CONCLUSION

The study on sky parenting and its effect on increasing children's interest in reading found strong evidence supporting this approach. Case studies of families near the Balaibaru Kuranji Grand Mosque in Padang, West Sumatra, show that sky parenting stimulates children's reading interest. Parents practicing sky parenting consistently provide spiritual examples, introduce religious reading materials, and create supportive family environments for religious literacy. The findings indicate that religious texts, such as holy verses and stories, effectively increase children's reading interest, leading to deeper engagement in reading activities. While the study highlights the positive impact of sky parenting on children's reading interests, further research should explore broader community integration and its impact on the school environment. The practical implications provide a foundation for future educational efforts and children's religious literacy development.

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