



# **THE USE OF NURSERY RHYMES TO IMPROVE STUDENTS' MASTERY IN PRONUNCIATION**

(An Action Research of the Year Fifth Students of SDN 1 Dukuh Dungus in the  
Academic Year 2010/ 2011)

a final project

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by

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## ABSTRACT

**Era Meiswarawati. 2011.** *The Use of Nursery Rhymes to Improve Students' Mastery in Pronunciation (An Action Research of the Year Fifth Students of SDN 1 Dukuh Dungus in the Academic Year 2010/ 2011).* Final Project. English department, Faculty of Languages and Arts, Semarang State University. First advisor: Dra. C. Murni Wahyanti, M.A., Second advisor: Drs. Alim Sukrisno, M.A.

**Keywords: Nursery rhymes, pronunciation, vowel sounds.**

This research concerns with the use of nursery rhymes as a media to improve students' skill in English pronunciation, especially vowels sounds ([ʌ],[ə],[ɪ],[ɔ],[ʊ]). The objective of the study is to find out how well nursery rhymes give contribution in teaching pronunciation to the elementary school students.

To conduct the study, I adopted an action research design. I took the fifth graders of SDN 1 Dukuh Dungus as the subject of the study. There were two cycles in this study. Each cycle consists of 4 meetings. I began the research by giving a pre-test to the students. Then, they got a treatment in each cycle. In the end of each cycle, I gave an assessment test to know their progress in pronouncing English words. After the first cycle and the second cycle were completely done, I gave a post-test and a questionnaire. I used an observation guide, tests, and a questionnaire to collect the data. To analyze the results of the tests, I used the scoring guidance suggested by Brown (2004).

The results of this study revealed that the students' pronunciation improved. They became more active after I gave a treatment to them. The results of the students' pronunciation change were supported by the average of the students' test results and the results of questionnaire. The average result of the students' pre-test was 47.52, first cycle test was 54.08, second cycle test was 68.96 and post- test was 86.88. It means that the average results of the students' tests increased after they had been taught by using nursery rhymes media in English pronunciation. The results of questionnaire showed that the students gave positive perception to the use of nursery rhymes. They could improve their pronunciation skill by using the media.

According to the results above, it can be concluded that nursery rhymes media gives contribution to the improvement of the students' skill in English pronunciation. The use of nursery rhymes media is recommended for English teachers as an alternative media. Through this media, teachers are able to enhance students' interest and motivation in learning English.