

INTRODUCTION TO HERPETOFAUNAL DIVERSITY FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS AS A BASIS OF FAUNAL CONSERVATION AND ITS EDUCATION IN INDONESIA

by Rizka A. Putri, Tien Aminatun, Sukiya

ABSTRACT

Abstract

Indonesia is one of countries with high number of species biodiversity. Many of species found in this region are endemic species, including Herpetofauna. Herpetofauna is a group of animals that belong to two classes which are Amphibian and Reptilians. In recent years, species extinction occurs in many regions due to human activities. To reduce the rate of global extinction of Herpetofauna, conservation effort must be done. Conservation can only be succeeded if all elements in society work together to protect the ecosystem. Therefore, conservation in a country needs a support from its citizen. To develop citizen's interest and consciousness toward the importance of protecting our biodiversity, education is one of many powerful ways. This program aimed to introduce the diversity of Indonesia herpetofauna for elementary school students in order to develop their knowledge and awareness of their environment also to give some example of simple habits that could help preserve the existence of these animals.

This program was held in SDN Babarsari, Sleman, Yogyakarta. Fifty five students was attended this program. The topics were given indoor followed by demonstration of certain animals and practices. Questionnaires were given to find out students' response of this program. The results of questionnaires showed that most students (95%) feel that this program is according to their needs. Based on discussion, participants wanted that similar program is held regularly with more variations in learning materials. The program was done successfully with the lecture and practical sessions done on time and able to create a positive respond from the participants.

Kata Kunci: *Biodiversity, Education, Herpetofauna, Conservancy*