

Use of Rubber Fruit Seeds in Making Fine Artworks at SMA Negeri 1 Payaraman

Herisa Aji Hikdawati¹, Muhammad Kristiawan²

¹SMA Negeri 1 Payaraman, South Sumatra, Indonesia, ²Universitas Bengkulu,
Bengkulu, Indonesia

Corresponding author e-mail: herisaaji@gmail.com

Article History: Received on 21 October 2023, Revised on 1 February 2024,
Published on 24 February 2024

Abstract: Rubber plants are very easy to find around SMAN 1 Payaraman because they are widely cultivated by the community around the school. One of the parts contained in the rubber plant is the rubber fruit seeds. Rubber fruit seeds are covered with a hard-textured seed coat, brown, and have a distinctive pattern. The inside of the rubber fruit seeds is usually processed as a food source by the people in the Payaraman area. Meanwhile, the shells of rubber fruit seeds, which have a hard, brownish texture, are only waste and no one has used them yet. The purpose of this research is to find out the process of using rubber fruit seeds in the creation of works of art. In making works of art using rubber fruit seeds, researchers are divided into several stages, namely; determining the theme, determining the type of work, determining the technique of making the work, preparing tools and materials, and making works of art based on the techniques students like. The result of this study is that students can create various works of art from rubber seeds. The types of works of art made from rubber seeds that were made by students were: paintings, key chains, flowers, wall hangings, and ant figures. Utilizing rubber fruit seeds in making works of art, can increase the knowledge of teachers and students to use various kinds of media that exist around the school so that they can become works of art which will certainly add to the selling value of a work of art.

Keywords: Fine Arts, Rubber Fruit Seeds, Works of Art

A. Introduction

Arts and culture learning is mandatory for students in grades X to XII of SMA Negeri 1 Payaraman. According to Kasmawati et al (2019), students enrolled in vocational or high school programs are required to study arts and culture. In addition to producing work products, the objective is to be able to train students' thinking competencies. This goal is pursued to shape students' attitudes, mindsets, inventiveness, bravery in trying new things, and self-assurance. This is further supported by the Wulandari (2011) claim that art is the spirit within every human being since it satisfies the most fundamental human need namely, the need for art in

daily existence. There are several branches of learning to create works of art, including movement arts, sound arts, and fine arts.

The four subject areas taught in cultural arts are fine arts, music, dance, and theatrical arts. Activities for teaching and learning about fine art are done in class. Additionally, according to Utami & Triyanto (2016), fine arts learning activities in arts and culture learning are teaching and learning activities that take a lot of time because the learning is done through theoretical and practical learning activities, so time needs to be managed as efficiently as possible. At SMA Negeri 1 Payaraman, learning the fine arts depends heavily on the medium that is available for creation. When deciding which media to employ to create fine arts, SMA Negeri 1 Payaraman's arts and culture teachers frequently get confused.

Negeri SMA 1 Plantations of rubber surround Payaraman. The majority of the population in the Payaraman region makes their living from rubber plantations. This explains why Ogan Ilir Regency, South Sumatra Province's Payaraman district is one of its main rubber-producing regions. The size of rubber land in the Payaraman sub-district was 7,172 hectares, according to the most recent report from the Central Statistics Agency for Ogan Ilir district, which was released in 2016.

In this study, researchers examined several problems, namely; 1) what is the process of using rubber seeds in making works of art at SMA Negeri 1 Payaraman?; 2) What are the results of using rubber seeds in making works of art at SMA Negeri 1 Payaraman? Based on this problem, this research aims to; 1) know the process of using rubber seeds in making works of art; and 2) find out the results of using rubber seeds in making works of fine art.

B. Methods

The purpose of this study was to investigate the methods and outcomes of employing rubber seeds in the creation of fine art. Based on this, the teacher provides direct direction during the process of employing rubber seeds to produce artwork. For the students, the teacher serves as a facilitator and mentor. The actions listed below are carried out: 1) Explain the activities that will be done; 2) Have students look at rubber fruit seeds; 3) Have them investigate the different kinds of artwork that have been produced; 4) Have them write out a plan for creating a fine art piece.

Establish the theme. This is the first step in the process of developing an artwork. An artwork's theme is its central concept or idea. The focus of this study is natural art, namely the application of rubber seeds. The purpose of rubber seed application is to enhance current regional potential for future optimization; 2) Ascertain the nature of the task. The fine art pieces produced are of several kinds, tailored to the pupils' skill

levels in creating art. Fine art can be classified into two categories: two-dimensional and three-dimensional artwork. Examples of three-dimensional artwork in the form of sculptures, as well as examples of two-dimensional paintings; 3) Choose the method for creating the piece. The teacher offers the students the flexibility to use skills they have acquired to make artwork with rubber seeds. This is because the instructor incorporates content-differentiated learning into the actual learning process; 4) Get the supplies and tools ready. to get ready the tools and supplies needed to create artwork that reflects the artwork that the children will create. The following are a few tools that can be used to create art: saws, hammers, scissors, needles, and knives. Meanwhile, the materials used are rubber seeds as the main ingredient and several other additional materials such as glue, paint, various types of cloth, wire, plywood, cardboard, skewers, rope/thread; 5) create works of fine art based on techniques that students like.

C. Results and Discussion

Rubber plant

The rubber plant (*Hevea brasiliensis*) is native to Brazil. Rubber is derived from this plant worldwide. The rubber plant is the only one that is commonly cultivated and produces latex. In addition to being a plantation crop, rubber plays a significant part in the Indonesian economy and can be grown in nearly every region of the country (Miranda et al., 2016).

The rubber plant has a morphology that includes fruit, roots, trees, leaves, and flowers. Rubber seeds are found inside the fruit and feature a unique pattern on their tough, brownish surface. Budiman, cited in Oktriana (2019), states that rubber trees bear fruit in the form of hard, square-skinned pods. Every box contains a seed that is typically referred to as the shell since it is encased in a hard skin.

The portion of the rubber tree that is utilized is the white rubber sap, which is extracted by employing a specific method to remove the rubber plant's epidermis. The rubber sap is then collected in a bowl-shaped container made of molded plastic or coconut shell. The Payaraman people commonly refer to the container as a sayak. There are rubber trees in addition to latex, which is the primary product of rubber plants. When rubber trees reach a certain age, they are chopped down and sold to businesses as raw materials for plywood or furniture.

Rubber plants also produce seeds, which include rubber seed flesh, in addition to the sap and tree. In Indonesia, rubber pulp is currently widely used. Rubber seed processing produces a variety of products, including varnishes, batik, roof tiles, soap ingredients, rubber softeners, resin alkaloids, grease, and bioethanol. Indeed, a portion of the rubber fruit seed oil extraction process is also used to make fertilizer

and animal feed (Manik & Nurlina, 2017). In addition, the Payaraman people frequently use the flesh of this rubber fruit as a food ingredient, processing it into Bekasam. Bekasam is a type of fermented food that is processed in such a way. It's just that this food is not very popular. Apart from that, if it is not processed properly, this food can be toxic to our bodies.

The fruit shell, often referred to as the shell, is what rubber fruit seeds are made of. It is possible to turn rubber fruit shells into briquettes. The rubber seed shell's form indicates that the plant is lignified. The rubber fruit shell's rigid shell structure suggests that it retains lignin, one of the active chemicals, which may one day be converted into briquette products. In addition to the shell, the rubber meat in the fruit of the rubber plant is covered with a rubber seed shell. This shell has a hard texture, brownish color, and has a unique pattern. Based on these explanations, the researchers conducted research to use rubber fruit seeds which have a hard shell to be used as material for making fine artworks.

Fine Art Works

Fine art is a category of art composed of materials that are perceptible to the sight and tactile to the touch. The notions of points, lines, planes, forms, volumes, colors, textures, and lighting that relate to beauty were worked on to make this piece (Kenyawati, 2017). The Arabic terms tashwir, tamatsil, and rasm can be used in place of the word fine arts itself. According to Hilmi (2018), tashwir can be seen as an attempt to mimic an existent shape. This form could be two-dimensional and created in the form of strokes on a flat surface, like in a drawing or painting, or it could be a three-dimensional form like a statue. Fine art is a branch of works of art that shows its form from lines, colors, textures, space, and light and dark (Rachmat & Nugraha, 2010). From these explanations, researchers conclude that fine art is a part of a work of art that is transformed into a work in the form of an object.

There are two categories of fine art: applied art and pure art. Pure art is a type of great art that is made from the artist's spirit and has no particular purpose or application. Pure artistic creations are unique and meant to be appreciated only for their visual and creative qualities. Expression freedom is crucial when creating works of pure art. These sculptures and paintings are examples of pure art. Applied art, on the other hand, is a type of fine art that prioritizes functionality over aesthetics. Applied fine arts include decorations, ads, illustrations, crafts, architecture, ceramics, batik, and graphics (Rachmat & Nugraha, 2010).

Fine arts are classified into the following categories based on their type: 1) two-dimensional, or dwimatra, works of art are those that have length and width and can only be viewed from the front; 2) Tridimensional art refers to two-dimensional art that has dimensions of length, width, and height, or, to put it another way, depth,

which allows the shape to be seen from several angles; 3) Four-dimensional art, or "Time-Based Art" as it is more well known. This piece of art is a new phenomenon in the field of fine arts, which also includes: (1) video fine art that showcases sound and movement; (2) performing fine art that records artists in action through photographs or videos; and (3) interactive fine arts, such as computer animation, robotics, and digital fine arts, which artists use to investigate the possibilities of emerging technologies (Salam, 2020).

Depending on what is needed to make the piece, a multitude of materials can be used to create fine art. A fine art piece is made up of three types of materials: liquids like paint, hard materials like stone, wood, and metal, and soft materials like clay, leather, wood sap, and plant fibers. Based on the description provided, the researcher decided to use rubber fruit seeds to produce artwork with a natural environment theme. Because SMA Negeri 1 Payaraman is bordered by rubber plantations, the researchers chose this area to make it easier for them to conduct their research.

Techniques for Creating Fine Arts

Depending on the concept and the piece being created, different steps are involved in producing a work of fine art. The pasting technique is one of the methods that may be utilized to produce two-dimensional artwork. Collage, montage, and mosaic techniques are the three categories under which pasting techniques fall.

Using the collage technique, one can create a new piece of art by piecing together several components in one location (Dalifa et al., 2022). A collage is a two-dimensional artistic creation created by attaching different materials to form a cohesive whole that can express the artist's aesthetic feelings. Collage, according to Sari et al (2014), is a method for producing two- or three-dimensional artworks by placing purposefully created materials on a flat surface and gluing them into place. Meanwhile Anggraeni et al (2021) state that the collage technique is the art of attaching various materials such as leaves, wooden twigs, paper, cloth, egg shells, and many others and then combining them using dye.

On the other hand, the montage approach involves pasting multiple completed images with each other to create a work of great art. The materials used to create montage artworks are completed images that have been divided into fragments and put on a flat surface to form a single illustrative piece (Probosiwi, 2018). By joining tiny bits of material, the mosaic technique creates works that are both two and three-dimensional. Wood, glass, stone, and coconut shells are among the materials that can be used to create mosaics (Hasnawati & Anggraini, 2018).

There are three-dimensional pieces of art in addition to two-dimensional ones. Assembly, application, casting, weaving, and sculpting processes are the methods employed in the creation of three-dimensional artworks. To make a finished piece of art, the assembling process is made by joining parts of specific materials. Miniature ships, planes, and other artworks are examples of works of art that can be created with assembly techniques (Simatupang, 2020). In addition to procedures for assembly, there are techniques for application. The application technique is a method of sewing different pieces of fabric together to create works of fine art (Palwanto, 2020).

Casting processes exist in addition to assembly and application procedures. Palwanto (2020) defines casting technique as a method of creating fine art pieces through the pouring of a liquid material into a molding tool. This artwork is constructed with metal, rubber, cement, and other materials. The sculpting technique is the next method for creating three-dimensional artwork. Palwanto (2020) adduces that the carving technique is a means of producing artistic creations by chiseling away some extraneous materials with a hammer, chisel, and file.

It's a good idea to decide on the kind of work and the concept of the piece before beginning to make a fine art piece. This is done to help us decide more easily what kind of job we will produce. Choosing a theme for one's fine art creations, such as the natural world, the artificial world, social situations, fantasy, or the dream world, is a common practice among artists. Just to be clear, any source of inspiration can serve as the basis for a work; this classification of sources of inspiration is not intended to serve as a standard (Sukaya, 2009).

After carrying out a series of processes for creating works of art using rubber seeds as material for creating art, several varied works were obtained by students. Some of the works created from the process of using rubber seeds in making works of art produced in this research are as follows:

1. Painting of rubber fruit seed shells



One kind of two-dimensional art is painting. Collage techniques are utilized to create art with rubber seed shells. By affixing objects on plywood, a medium for fine art, one can create collages using the collage technique. The rubber seed is first extracted from the shell by striking it with a stone or hammer. After that, the rubber seed is taken out of the shell. The second process involves coloring the broken rubber fruit seed shells with oil paint and using a pencil to design the artwork on the plywood that has been ready beforehand. Then the plywood that has been sketched is attached to the rubber seed shell. The rubber seed shell fragments can be adhered to the sketch one at a time or by gluing them together and smoothing them into the sketch after wood glue has been applied to the rubber seed shell fragments. Spread more wood glue over the completed shell, and then give it a final coat of clear wood paint to give it a more glossy appearance. Crushed rubber seed shells, plywood (to which the rubber seeds are attached), wood glue, and acrylic paint are the supplies needed to create this painting. The instruments are a paintbrush and a hammer or rock.

2. Wall decoration made from rubber seeds.



An application technique is used in the creation of this wall decoration. Several materials are joined together using glue in this approach. The first step is to get the supplies ready, which include glue, skewers, old cardboard, and whole rubber seeds. A pencil, ruler, and scissors are the equipment used. Using a pencil, draw patterns on discarded cardboard, then cut them out. After assembling all the components into the desired shape, color the segments that have come to represent a series. After that, affix the rubber seeds to the constructed portions of the pattern. To ensure that this wall decoration doesn't come off easily, adhere all the materials together using wood glue. Allow the glue to cure completely before applying it again, and repeat the glue process as needed. Once the wall decoration is complete, paint it. We are free to choose whichever paint we choose. To achieve a more organic appearance, simply apply brown varnish. The wall hanging should have a nylon rope hanger attached to its back. We are doing this to make hanging the wall decoration easier for us. To prevent the wall decoration from coming off easily, make sure the adhesive is completely set before attaching it to the wall.

3. Table flowers from rubber fruit seeds



Using the application procedure, this rubber fruit seed table flower is likewise created. Setting up the equipment and supplies is the first stage in creating it. Rubber seeds, tiny wire, used satay skewers, woolen thread, and wax glue are the necessary supplies. Next, use a skewer to poke a hole in the rubber fruit seed. To facilitate the creation of holes, the eyes of rubber fruit seeds grow into the holes. The rubber fruit seeds need to be wired as the next stage. Repeat this process for every hollowed-out rubber fruit seed. Apply glue on the rust's tip, then wrap a twisted piece of wool thread around the wire and insert the rubber seed hole to reinforce it. Next, piece together the wire that has been fastened using rubber fruit seeds until it resembles a stem of flowers. To give the flowers pistils, incorporate other materials like wool thread. After that, put the floral arrangement in a styrofoam-covered flower vase.

4. Keychain



Key chains are ornaments fastened to different kinds of keys, purses, and other items. The goal is to improve the key's visibility, serve as a marker for a key, and enhance the key's aesthetics. Rubber seed key chains are created by applying a technique where multiple rubber seeds are connected with thread or string until the desired shape is achieved. Getting supplies and tools ready is the first step. To pierce rubber seeds, nails are utilized, and needles are used to insert threads into the seeds. All you'll need are whole rubber seeds, beads, key chain rings, and wool or string thread. Next, drill out the rubber seeds one by one, then put the seeds together using thread, put an iron key chain ring on the top of the key chain, and put some beads to decorate. The key chain is ready to use.

5. Ant figure



Rubber seed fragments are assembled into the shape of an ant to create this frame. Setting up supplies and instruments, such as full rubber seeds, black cables, and nails, is the first stage. Using nails, pierce the rubber seeds in the previously defined areas. Next, cut the hard wire into multiple sections, each of a size that corresponds to the size of the frame being constructed. After making a hole in the rubber seed, place the rusted wire over it and paint the figure as desired. In addition to figures, rubber seeds can be used to create dolls, brooches, and tiny structures. Everything relies on how creative each of us is.

Students exhibit ingenuity throughout the entire process of creating works of art, from choosing the project to creating pieces of art out of rubber seeds. Student creativity manifests itself in three ways: 1) students employ a greater range of basic materials by their interests and inventiveness; 2) students can use tools for creating visual arts securely; and 3) students use other intriguing and varied supporting resources. These supplementary materials can be beads, cardboard that has been used, skewers, paint, and a lot more; 4) the kinds of art produced differ based on each student's inventiveness and are also tailored to the circumstances of the student's neighborhood; 5) the work process is quite easy so that it can be imitated

by other people and can be used as a reference in making works of art with natural environmental themes.

Researchers conclude that by exploiting the surrounding environment of the school, a variety of works of art with distinctive and intriguing shapes can be developed based on the results of the created labor. It is intended that as a result, kids will be more appreciative of their artistic endeavors and will become more conscious of the need to preserve and use the environment around their homes and schools.

D. Conclusions

A work of fine art is a work created in the form of an object, which has a function of beauty and also a function of use. Works of fine art can be created in various forms, including two-dimensional forms, three-dimensional forms, and even four-dimensional works of art. There are various ways to make works of fine art, from sticking, weaving, painting, sculpting, application, printing, and many others. In making works of art, you can use various kinds of materials, one of which is natural materials, namely rubber seeds. The use of rubber seeds as a material in making works of fine art aims to increase the variety of types of works of art. Apart from that, it is also to increase the usefulness of the rubber seeds themselves. The use of rubber seeds in making works of fine art produces various types of works, namely; works of art using rubber seed shells, wall hangings, decorative flowers, key chains, and ant frames. The results of using rubber seeds can of course be re-developed into various other types of fine art.

E. Acknowledgement

Thank you to the principal and stakeholders of SMA Negeri 1 Payaraman, and the team of PPSDP International Journal of Education.

References

- Anggraeni, S. N., Mulyana, E. H., & Giyartini, R. (2021). Development of Collage Teaching Materials to Facilitate Early Childhood Fine Arts Learning. *PAUD Agapedia*, 5(1), 10-21.
- Dalifa, Dadi, S., Agusdianita, N., & Karjiyati, V. (2022). Training on Making Fine Art Works Using Collage Techniques for Class I Students at SDN 01 Bengkulu City. *Jurnal Abdi Pendidikan*, 03(2), 103-109. <https://ejournal.unib.ac.id/jap/article/view/24579>
- Hasnawati, H., & Anggraini, D. (2018). Mosaics as a Means of Developing Children's Creativity in Fine Arts Learning Using Creativity and Skills Development Methods. *Jurnal PGSD*, 9(2), 229-235. <https://doi.org/10.33369/pgsd.9.2.226-235>

- Hilmi, A. (2018). *Tashwir Fine Arts from an Islamic View*. Rumah Fiqih Publishing.
- Kasmawati, K., Atmojo, W. T., Kartono, G., & Soeprayogi, H. (2019). Pembuatan Kerajinan Keramik Dengan Teknik Pilin Pada Siswa Kelas X Smk Pelayaran Buana Bahari. *Gorga : Jurnal Seni Rupa*, 8(2), 392. <https://doi.org/10.24114/gr.v8i2.15690>
- Kenyowati, E. (2017). Humans and Multicultural Works in Fine Arts. *Jurnal Seni Rupa Warna*, 11(11), 93–106.
- Manik, T. N., & Nurlina, N. (2017). Utilization of Rubber Seeds as a Processed Emping Product. *Jurnal Pengabdian Kepada Masyarakat MEDITEG*, 1(1), 1–6. <https://doi.org/10.34128/mediteg.v1i1.6>
- Miranda, R., Astuti Hasibuan, N., & Rikiana, R. (2016). Expert System for Diagnosing White Root Fungal Disease in Rubber Plants. *Jurnal Riset Komputer dan Lingkungan*, 3(6), 124–127. <https://doi.org/http://ejurnal.stmik-budidarma.ac.id/index.php/jurikom/article/view/188>
- Oktriana, R. (2019). *Analysis of Folk Rubber Business and Marketing through kub in Pebaun Hilir Village, Kuantan Mudik District, Kuantan Singingi District*.
- Palwanto, M. (2020). *High School Learning Module for Arts and Culture Three Dimensional Arts Class XII*.
- Probosiwi, P. (2018). Basic Knowledge of Fine Arts and Skills and Making Teaching Materials Using Montage Techniques. *Jurnal Pemberdayaan: Publikasi Hasil Pengabdian Kepada Masyarakat*, 1(2), 275. <https://doi.org/10.12928/jp.v1i2.336>
- Rachmat, S., & Nugraha, R. A. (2010). *Fine Arts for SMP/MTs Classes VII, VIII, and IX u for SMP/MTs Classes VII, VIII, and IX*. Pusat Perbukuan, Kementerian Pendidikan Nasional.
- Salam, S. (2020). *Basic Knowledge of Fine Arts*. Badan Penerbit UNM.
- Sari, D. R., Suratman, A., & Yulidesni, Y. (2014). *Improving Children's Art Creativity Through Collage Techniques Using Pencil Shared Media Collage Techniques Using Pencil Shared Media in Tunas Nangsa Preschool Children Group B in Tunas Nangsa Preschool Children Group B Merambung Village Ulu Manna Distric*. Universitas Bengkulu.
- Simatupang, S. (2020). *Dimensional Art Works*.
- Sukaya, Y. (2009). Forms and Methods in Creating Works of Fine Art. *FPBS UPI*, 1(April 2019), 124–125.
- Utami, W. D., & Triyanto, P. (2016). Use of Rubber Tree Fruit Seeds as an Alternative Material for Arts and Crafts in SMP Muhammadiyah 1 Sragen. *Journal of Arts Education*. <https://doi.org/http://journal.unnes.ac.id/sju/index.php/catharsis>
- Wulandari, M. K. (2011). *Contemporary Art Gallery in DI Yogyakarta*. UAJY.