Abstract: This research aims to introduce the folk songs, because the folk songs loaded with positive values and moral message such as nationalism, that can be a basic character formation. This research used qualitative descriptive method, which means that the discussed problems in this research illustrate or elaborate on the state or phenomenon. The results of this research was given materials about folk songs by story telling model or fairy tales. The teacher taught the game song such as “The Padhang Bulan” which tells story of love to God and the universe and its contents as God creation. This song also told us about the care nature and togetherness towards fellow human beings and grateful feeling. In addition to folk songs learning achievement by story telling, teachers used the audio visual media on the folk songs showed about Indonesia's natural beauty and cultural richness of Indonesia.

Keywords: character cultivation, folk songs.
One way to build the children character was by introducing the folk song which had a positive values and moral messages in it. Moral values were inserted in the lyrics and intended to educate the children, which could be a moral basis to early age children. It was necessary to played the folk songs in their learning process. Because these days children were more familiar with drama soundtrack, namely: “Anak Jalanan by title Cinta Gila” and “Manusia Harimau by title Aku Pati Bisa”.

Based on the importance of early education early, it was necessary to cultivate the character values within early age children through the folk songs. The teacher would played the folk songs and explained the song meaning in the language that could be understood by children and explained what character values could be retrieved from the track. By folk songs played to the early age children, we expected a positive results that could be cultivated in children.

Sandhy Putra Kindergarten was located in the Surakarta City, which formed by Surakarta Telecommunication Foundation, Central Java. Researchers interested in researching Sandhy Putra Kindergarten’s Curriculum, because in every month provided the importance of characters cultivating through folk song. Applied curriculum was cultivated nationalism through the folk songs. In Sandhy Putra Kindergarten by singing songs such as: “Wiwit Aku Masih Bayi”, “Sluku-sluku Batok”, “Jamuran”, “Gambang Suling”, “Gundul-gundul Pacul” every week in the learning process. By playing the folk songs, students were expected to cultivated the nationalism through the folk song.

From what has been presented before, the researchers would like to examine more about the character values cultivation through the folk songs in early age children of Sandhy Putra Kindergarten Surakarta City.

2. RESEARCH METHODS

This research used qualitative descriptive method, which means the problems that was discussed in this research illustrate or elaborate on the state or phenomenon, and the case was the character cultivation through the folk songs in Sandhy Putra Kindergarten.

This research was done on the even semester TA 2017/2018, 23rd April-27th July in Sandhy Putra Kindergarten Adi Sucipto St. No. 58, Surakarta Regency. The data collection development techniques were organized in the research namely:

a. Observation

In this research used non-interactive observations. Researchers came to school looking at infrastructure, administration, classroom, students in learning process from beginning to end, and observe the behavior.

b. Interview

In this research used non-guided interview techniques. It was intended for the informan to give a free opinion and had a relax condition.
c. Documentation

In this research, researchers would taking video and picture of the learning process in the classroom.

3. THE RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

a. General Description of Sandhy Putra Kindergarten

Sandhy Putra Kindergarten was located on Adi Sucipto St. No. 58, Surakarta Regency, which was founded in 1980. Officially inaugurated on 7 May 1985 by the Chairman of Sandhykara Putra Telkom Mrs. Eem Rahmat Foundation, with inscription signing on the stone made of marble which was located on classroom front wall. At the beginning the students or childer was still relatively few, Sandhy Putra Kindergarten at that time had only one teacher and one head master. The facilities and infrastructure was still not maximum, so the teachers were required to really work in advanced to developing Sandhy Putra Kindergarten.

On his journey Sandhy Putra Kindergarten who was initially only in Magelang City, Bandung City, Padang City, Solo City and Pasuruan City was currently booming, and now there were 34 Kindergardens spread in all over Indonesia. Sandhy Putra Kindergarten Surakarta City reach their gory in 1990-2005 by having up to 5 rombels. The teachers had given SK (Official Work Letter) from the Foundations. Many achievements already gained by students, teachers, and institutions.

b. The Learning Model

The learning model in kindergarten Sandhy Putra was currently used 2013-Curriculum. This Curriculum divided into two groups, namely Sentra Group and Creative Group. Sandhy Putra Kindergarten included in creative Group according to infrastructure that school had. The difference between Sentra group and Creative Group was the room function. Sentra group just used one room the the beginning until the end of learning. But the creative group used one room but divided into three activities, mutually rotating.

c. The Character Values Provided through The Folk Songs

Musical experiences in children need to be given as early as possible. Through music, student could not only express their ability in singing or playing music, but also perform and implement the song’s values. The expression ability and cultivate the song’s values were one of the ways to help children build their character. Early childhood
strongly emphasized the attitudes and behaviour development, as well as the ability of the essence because in this golden age children already had a strong education. Teachers cultivate character on early ages. If the nationalism already cultivate strongly in early ages, then the child would hold a firm character in daily life. Early childhood cognitive developmental stage was concrete operations according to Piaget. The children were received everything concretely and still haven't been able to think abstract. Therefore, the school cultivate character through folk songs.

d. Characters Cultivation through The Folk Songs

In the classroom learning achievement, the materials was about the folk songs, teacher were usually used the story telling method or fairy tales. According to Mrs. Ani (The classroom teacher) teacher taught game song such as Padhang Bulan. In that song teacher tells about God’s love for universe and all his creation (Interview 18th September 2017). Padhang Bulan alaso tells about the care nature, togetherness against fellow human beings, and grateful feeling. The other folk song taught namely Jaranan. Jaranan has taught the values message to respect and manners to our bosses or people of higher social position and people who are more mature, it also teach the compassion nature, caring, cooperation with other people and the importance of togetherness, because basically humans need each other.

4. SUMMARY

Based on the research results and discussion could be summed up that character education could be cultivated through the folk songs. The message in the song lyrics were good, by teachers taught and parents explanation the students were expected to be a person who has the attitude, behavior, and moral. The folk gaming songs that were taught in kindergarten Sandhy Putra by title Cublak-Cublak Suweng contained a local cultural values. In the past Cublak-cublak Suweng sung while playing. The game was done in a group. A child sit face-down in the middle of the circle. Some children sitting in circular and sing while turning a seed. This song taught the students about togetherness, honesty, and cohesiveness.

Through songs, students would gain various experiences from the song lyrics that has been sung, then the teacher explained the meaning contained, it would strengthen the already existing characters. In addition, the teacher could foster the manners and character have not grown yet in accordance with the song.
5. RESOURCES


