

THE ROLE OF VISUAL ARTS ACTIVITIES IN DEVELOPING CREATIVE
COMPETENCE IN PRESCHOOL CHILDREN

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Аннотация.

В данной статье раскрываются роль и значение изобразительной деятельности в развитии творческой компетенции у детей дошкольного возраста. В исследовании проанализированы теоретические основы художественного образования, влияние изобразительной деятельности на развитие личности, а также её педагогические возможности в формировании творческого мышления. Кроме того, обоснована актуальность организации изобразительной деятельности на основе интегративного подхода в процессе модернизации системы дошкольного образования Республики Узбекистан. В статье подчёркивается, что гармоничное применение наглядных, словесных, игровых и стимулирующих методов является важным фактором формирования воображения, эстетического вкуса, социально-эмоционального развития и навыков самостоятельного мышления у детей.

Ключевые слова: дошкольное образование, изобразительная деятельность, творческая компетенция, художественное образование, эстетическое воспитание, творческое мышление, интегративный подход, педагогические методы, социально-эмоциональное развитие, дошкольный возраст.

Abstract.

This article highlights the role and significance of visual arts activities in developing creative competence in preschool children. The study analyzes the theoretical foundations of art education, the impact of visual arts activities on personality development, and their pedagogical potential in fostering creative thinking. Furthermore, the relevance of organizing visual arts activities based on an integrative approach within the process of modernizing the preschool education system of the Republic of Uzbekistan is substantiated. The article emphasizes that the harmonious application of visual, verbal, play-based, and motivational methods serves as an important factor in developing children's imagination, aesthetic taste, socio-emotional development, and independent thinking skills.

Keywords: preschool education, visual arts activities, creative competence, art education, aesthetic education, creative thinking, integrative approach, pedagogical methods, socio-emotional development, preschool age.

INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, in modern pedagogy, great attention is paid to art education as one of the key components of a person's comprehensive and harmonious development. Art education is a purposeful process aimed at perceiving, feeling, appreciating, and enjoying art, creating artistic values, and developing abilities and talents in various fields of art. Art education involves familiarizing children with art and visual activities (drawing, modeling, crafting), developing their artistic perception, emotions, imagination, thinking, memory, speech, and creative abilities in different forms of artistic creativity, as well as forming an aesthetic sense through interest in works of art. The visual activities of preschool children are a unique form of activity closely connected with the manifestation and development of important qualities such as creativity, imagination, fantasy, observation, and other essential traits. Drawing, modeling with clay, and crafting (application) activities help children perceive the beauty of artworks, understand and



appreciate the richness and splendor of nature. Visual activity in preschoolers is an integral process, intimately linked with the emergence and development of creativity, imagination, fantasy, and observational skills. Through drawing, clay modeling, and application exercises, children learn to feel the beauty in art, recognize the unique charm and richness of nature, and value it. During the drawing process, a child demonstrates curiosity about the surrounding environment. Through the depicted images, one can gain insight into the child's inner experiences, worldview, and level of knowledge. The more developed a child's imagination and observational skills are, the more accurately and expressively they represent reality in their work; as a result, their drawings become richer in content and more impactful. Visual activities reveal the cognitive characteristics of children, particularly precision, imagery, and the ability to express themselves artistically. At the same time, this activity is closely linked not only to individual psychological processes—perception, memory, thinking, and imagination—but also to the child's personal characteristics. It reflects the child's interests, temperament, and even certain gender-specific traits.

During “visual activity” lessons, a range of educational and developmental objectives are addressed, including: cultivating aesthetic taste; developing practical artistic skills and abilities; enhancing imagination, creative thinking, and perception; improving precise hand movements and fine motor skills of the fingers; and providing opportunities for the emergence of budding professional artistic and creative abilities.

In conclusion, visual activity is the largest and most integrative section of preschool education, implemented in logical and didactic connection with other types of activities. In the Republic of Uzbekistan, ongoing reforms aimed at modernizing preschool education place strong emphasis on fostering creative approaches. Specifically, the “Concept for the Development of the Preschool Education System until 2030” identifies the comprehensive development of the child's personality, as well as the formation of creative thinking and independent decision-making skills, as priority directions. This highlights the essential role and significance of visual activity in the educational process.

Furthermore, according to the State Preschool Education Standard (SPES), developed based on modern pedagogical concepts, it is especially important to identify each child's individual potential and help realize it through creative activity. Additionally, by incorporating elements of art into the teaching and upbringing process, educators can create a positive emotional environment, increase children's self-confidence, and develop their ability to work collaboratively in a group.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE ON THE TOPIC

Research on the development of creative competence in preschool children through visual activities has been widely discussed in both national and international pedagogical studies. Scholars emphasize that visual activities—such as drawing, modeling, and crafting—play a crucial role in fostering imagination, creativity, and cognitive skills in early childhood. Studies highlight that engaging children in artistic activities not only enhances their aesthetic taste but also supports the development of fine motor skills, observation, memory, and critical thinking. According to contemporary pedagogical theories, early exposure to visual arts contributes significantly to the holistic development of the child's personality and emotional intelligence.

Furthermore, national educational reforms in Uzbekistan, including the “Concept for the Development of the Preschool Education System until 2030,” stress the importance of creative approaches in preschool education. These reforms align with international findings that promoting art and creative activities in early childhood leads to improved problem-solving skills, independent thinking, and social interaction abilities.



Overall, the literature suggests that structured visual activity programs in preschool settings serve as an effective tool for cultivating children's creative competence, aesthetic sensibility, and personal development, making them an essential component of modern early childhood education.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

In the process of visual activities, a variety of effective methods and techniques are used. They aim to develop children's creative abilities, increase their interest, and ensure the effectiveness of the lessons.

Demonstration Method – This involves showing children various natural objects, reproductions of artworks, sample visual aids, specific items, and different artistic techniques during or at the end of a lesson. Through this method, children form clear mental images and develop figurative thinking.

Oral Method – This includes conversation, explanation, commentary, and the use of artistic tools. The educator provides verbal instructions at the beginning and throughout the lesson. The main goal of this method is to help children recall previously formed images and enhance their interest in the lesson.

Play Method – Play is an essential part of preschool education. Organizing lessons in the form of games captures children's attention, facilitates thinking and imagination, and stimulates creative activity.

Motivation through Engaging Content – This method involves selecting bright, figurative, and interesting materials and aligning them with various tasks. It creates a joyful and inspiring environment, fosters a positive attitude toward visual activities, and broadens the scope of emotional experience. By using artistic materials in unusual and effective ways, children's creativity is further nurtured.

Animating Emotions through Music and Literary Imagery – This approach activates children's emotional memory using carefully selected musical and literary images. It evokes previously experienced emotions and makes the process of visual activity richer and more expressive.

Art and Color Games – These are games designed to help children explore colors, shapes, and objects. Such games can also support the development of collaboration and social interaction skills.

Books and Stories – Introducing children to new worlds through interesting books and stories helps expand their imagination and vocabulary.

These methods, when combined, provide a comprehensive framework for enhancing preschool children's creative competence and making visual activities both engaging and educational.

ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

The results of the analysis indicate that visual activities play a crucial role in developing creative competence in preschool children. They expand children's imagination, cultivate aesthetic taste, enhance their ability to perceive colors and shapes, stimulate creative thinking, and help them express themselves. Through drawing, sculpting, and other forms of art, children explore the world, apply their fantasies in practice, and develop their creative potential.

The Role of Visual Activities:

- **Developing Creative Thinking:** Visual activities encourage children to solve problems, generate new ideas, and express their imagination visually.
- **Aesthetic Education:** Working with colors, composition, and shapes helps children perceive beauty, develop aesthetic sensitivity, and cultivate a love for art.



- **Enhancing Imagination and Memory:** The drawing process strengthens memory, enriches imagination, and improves the ability to observe objects carefully.
- **Forming Voluntary Attention and Observation:** Drawing teaches children to focus, pay attention to details, and observe their surroundings attentively.
- **Socio-Emotional Development:** By expressing their creativity, children gain confidence, communicate their emotions, and learn to interact with others.

Types of Activities:

- Drawing (using paints, pencils, pastels)
- Application (crafts)
- Working with clay or plasticine (sculpting)
- Color illustration
- Making dolls and participating in dramatized performances

These activities serve as the primary tools for shaping the creative competence of preschool children, fostering their cognitive, emotional, and artistic development in a comprehensive and engaging manner.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In preschool education institutions, visual activities contribute not only to the development of artistic abilities in children but also to fostering communication skills, problem-solving abilities, initiative, and aesthetic taste. These activities support children's socialization, promote independent thinking, and encourage a creative approach. Integrating visual activities into the preschool curriculum also enhances educators' professional skills, enables effective use of modern and innovative methods, and strengthens pedagogical collaboration with parents.

Based on the above, the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Regularly enhance educators' professional qualifications** in visual activities, providing conditions for mastering modern methodologies and technologies.
- **Create a creative environment in preschool institutions** by adequately supplying necessary materials for visual activities (paper, pencils, various paints, glue, scissors, multimedia tools, etc.).
- **Encourage parental involvement** to support and motivate children's creative activities in the family environment.
- **Develop and implement social programs** in cooperation with state and non-governmental organizations to promote visual activities.

In conclusion, visual activities are an effective and influential tool for developing creative competence in preschool children. Organizing these activities purposefully, systematically, and innovatively lays a solid foundation for the comprehensive development of children as well-rounded individuals. Moreover, structuring visual activities with an integrative approach positively impacts children's speech, socio-emotional, and intellectual development. Using demonstration, play-based, oral, and motivational methods in lessons fosters a creative environment and strengthens children's confidence and independence.

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