



The Role of Play Activity in The Development of Preschool Children

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Abstract: This article highlights the fact that play in the lives of preschool children is not only a means of knowing things and phenomena in the external environment, but also a means of education. It is explained that play is the main tool in the personal development of children, the formation of social skills and the improvement of cognitive abilities. In creative and plot games, all the psychological characteristics of preschool children are formed. From this point of view, the main role of play in the implementation of educational work in kindergarten is highlighted. Also, recommendations are given for the activities of educators on what games to use in organizing educational activities in preschool education.

Keywords: Game activity, tasks, role-playing, in the form of a game, game hours, game process, plot games.

Introduction: Play is very important for preschool children. Play is a key tool for children's personal development, social skills, and cognitive abilities. Several aspects demonstrate the importance of play for children. These values are reflected in cognitive development, emotional and sensory development, social skills, physical development, and language and communication development. The child understands the environment during play. Develops social skills.

Cognitive development: Through play, children develop problem-solving, logical thinking, and creativity skills.

Cognitive development is the process of developing children's ability to think, reason, learn, and solve problems. There are several important aspects of cognitive development in preschool children:

Cognitive skills: Children acquire new knowledge, concepts, and skills through play. For example, constructive games help children learn about shapes, colors, and quantities.

Memory and attention: During play, children perform various tasks to develop memory and attention. This increases their memory and attention skills.

Problem solving: Games, especially strategic games, give children the opportunity to analyze problems and look for different solutions.

Logical thinking: Children learn cause-and-effect relationships through games, which develops their logical thinking skills.

Creativity: Role-playing and fantasy play expand children's imagination and encourage creative thinking.

Self-evaluation: Children learn to evaluate their own actions through play, which develops self-awareness and self-esteem.

Overall, cognitive development is an important foundation for children's overall intellectual and emotional development, helping them succeed in their later education and life.

Emotional development: Through play, children learn to express their own feelings, understand the feelings of others, and maintain emotional balance.

Emotional development is the process of developing children's abilities to understand, express, and manage their emotions. In preschool children, emotional development involves understanding, expressing, and maintaining emotional balance, social skills, and problem-solving through play. This greatly helps the child's development.

Children learn to recognize and name their feelings. This helps them understand themselves and others. During the game, children learn to express their feelings in different ways - laughing, crying, getting angry, etc. Children develop skills in managing emotional situations and maintaining balance, which helps them cope with stress. During group play, children learn to understand the feelings of others and show empathy for them. Games give children the opportunity to establish social relationships, cooperate and compete, which contributes to emotional development. During the game, children learn to manage their emotions in different situations, for example, resolving a disagreement with a friend. Emotional development is an important basis for children's self-awareness, social relationships and a successful life. This process is developed deeply and effectively through play.

Social skills: Playing games in a group helps children learn social communication, cooperation and competition.

Social skills are children's abilities to communicate with others, establish relationships and behave in a social

environment. Play activities play an important role in the development of social skills in preschool children. During the game, children learn the skills of expressing their thoughts, asking questions and communicating with others. Playing games in a group gives children the opportunity to work together, divide tasks and achieve common goals. Competitive games allow children to manage the emotions of winning and losing, learn about competition and sportsmanship. During the game, children learn to understand the feelings of others and show empathy towards them. The skills of resolving disagreements, reaching compromises and making the right decisions in social situations are developed. Through games, children learn to understand and follow rules, which helps maintain social order.

Social skills play an important role in children's future success and social life. Play is an effective and fun way to learn these skills.

Physical development: Active play helps children develop motor skills, balance, and physical abilities.

Physical development is the process of developing children's motor skills, physical abilities, and overall health. Physical development in preschool children is important for their health and social skills. Through play, children develop fine (e.g., grasping small objects, coloring) and gross (e.g., running, jumping) motor skills. Active play allows children to develop physical activity, improve their balance, and control their physical movements. A variety of sports games and activities help children increase their physical strength and improve their physical fitness. During play, children learn to coordinate their hand and foot movements, move quickly and accurately, which improves their coordination. Physical activity improves children's overall health, immunity, and metabolism. Through sports and team games, children learn teamwork, cooperation, and mutual support.

Physical development helps children stay healthy, active, and energetic, and is also important for their overall development. Play is an effective tool that stimulates and supports this process.

Language and communication skills: During play, children have the opportunity to learn new words, communicate, and develop language skills.

Language and communication skills are the children's ability to effectively express their thoughts, feelings, and ideas and to communicate with others. Play is an important part of developing these skills in preschoolers.

Through play, children learn new words, understand their meanings, and expand their language skills. Through play, children learn to express their thoughts,

ideas, and feelings. These skills strengthen children's communication skills. Through play, children learn to listen to others and understand their opinions. This is a necessary skill for successful communication. Play gives children the opportunity to use language in different contexts. For example, through role-playing, they learn to communicate through different characters. During play, children learn to express their feelings and respond to the feelings of others. This develops their emotional and social skills. Through play, children develop social skills, interact with friends, and solve problems.

Language and communication skills are essential for children to be successful in their future education and social lives. Play is an effective and fun way to learn these skills.

Creativity and imagination: Role-playing and other creative play expands children's imaginations and encourages creative thinking.

Creativity and imagination are children's abilities to generate new ideas, visions, and solutions. Play is an important part of developing these skills in preschoolers. Games, especially role-playing games, help children expand their imagination through different situations and characters. They put themselves in the shoes of other people and create new stories. Games allow children to develop creative thinking skills in the process of creating and solving problems. This increases their logical and innovative thinking skills. Constructive games and art activities allow children to experiment with materials and create new things. In this process, children feel a sense of freedom in expressing their thoughts. Through creative activities, children have the opportunity to express their feelings, ideas and thoughts, which contributes to their emotional development. Games increase children's interest in learning, creating and experimenting with new things. This increases their motivation and develops creativity. Creative activities in a group help children learn to work together, share ideas and learn from each other.

Creativity and imagination are essential for children's personal development, problem-solving and success in life. Play provides an ideal environment for learning and developing these skills.

Overall, play is an important tool in the holistic development of preschool children and is essential in preparing them for life.

There are a variety of games and activities that support the learning and development process through play in preschool children. Here are some examples of games:

1. "Role Playing"

- "Shopping Game": Children develop social skills by setting up a shop together and buying, selling and working with products.

- "Doctor Game": Children learn emotional development and empathy skills by playing the roles of a doctor and a patient.

2. "Constructive games"

- "Lego or blocks": Children develop creative thinking and motor skills by building different shapes.

- "Paper production": Children improve their creative skills by creating different objects from paper, cardboard and other materials.

3. "Motion games"

- "Running and jumping": Children develop their physical abilities by running and jumping with each other on the field.

- "Ball games": By playing with a ball, children improve their coordination, balance and speed skills.

4. "Educational games"

- "Logic puzzles": Children develop thinking and problem-solving skills through various puzzles and tasks.

- "Colors and shapes games": Children use special games to recognize colors and shapes.

5. "Art and Creative Activities"

- "Painting and Drawing": Children develop their creative abilities by mixing colors and creating new images.

- "Music and Dance": Children learn rhythm and movement skills by dancing to music.

6. "Nature Games"

- "Outdoor Games": Children learn new things through nature walks and additional games (for example, playing ball, searching games).

These games create a favorable environment for the overall development of children, increase their social, emotional and physical skills. Through games, children have the opportunity to express themselves freely, learn new things and have a fun time.

Examples of games for preschool children

- The game "Color and Shape Hunter". This game helps children recognize colors and shapes, develop attention and motor skills.

The purpose of the game: To teach children colors and shapes, increase logical thinking, and stimulate physical activity.

Materials needed for the game:- Cards of different colors and shapes (for example, square, circle, triangle).

- Colored balls or other toys.

- A large open area (a convenient place to play the game indoors).

Game process:

1. "Preparation":

- Prepare cards and colored balls. Set aside a separate place for each color and shape.

2. "Explain the rules of the game":

- Explain the rules of the game to the children. For example, "I will say the color, and you must find something of that color."

3. "Start the game":

- The game begins. Players take turns saying colors like "red," "blue," "yellow," or shapes like "circle," "square," "triangle."

- Children move around the area to find an object of the specified color or shape.

4. "Evaluation of results":

- Look at what each child has found and check if it is correct. If the children find the wrong objects, introduce them to the correct option.

- Encourage children to help each other during the game to help develop social relationships between them.

5. "End of the game":

- When the game is over, discuss the game with the children. Ask questions like "What colors and shapes were there?", "What did you find?"

Results of the game:

- Children learn colors and shapes.

- Attention and motor skills develop.

- Social skills (cooperation, helping) increase.

- Children have fun while playing.

This game is very interesting and useful for preschoolers, making the learning process more interesting for them.

- The game "Animal Sounds". This game helps children develop their hearing, recognize animals and understand their sounds.

Purpose of the game: To teach children about animals, to teach them to hear and distinguish their sounds.

Materials needed for the game:

- Pictures or figures of animals (for example, a cat, a dog, a cow, a bird, etc.).

- Audio recordings of animal sounds (if available) or sounds made by the teacher.

Game process:

1. "Preparation":

- Place pictures or figures of animals and introduce them to the children.

2. "Explaining the rules of the game":

- Explain the rules of the game to the children. "I will make the sound of an animal or show its picture, and you will guess which animal it is".

3. "Start of the game":

- Players make the sound of an animal one by one or show its picture.

- Children need to hear the sound or look at the pictures to identify the animal.

4. "Evaluation of results":

- Ask each child which animal they identified. Praise those who answered correctly and, if necessary, help those who answered incorrectly.

5. "End of the game":

- When the game is over, discuss the animals with the children. Create an interactive dialogue by asking questions such as "Which animals do you know?", "What sounds do they make?"

Results of the game:

- Children learn more about animals and their sounds.

- Hearing and attention skills develop.

- Social communication and communication skills are strengthened.

- Children have a fun time during the game.

This game is fun and educational for children, and it is a great opportunity for them to express themselves freely and actively participate in the learning process.

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