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The Role of Visual Activity in The Development of Preschool Children

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Abstract: This scientific article highlights the role of artistic activity in the mental, aesthetic, creative, and personal development of high school students. The article analyzes the psychological and pedagogical significance of artistic activity, its developmental functions, its role in preparing for school, and its educational potential on a scientific basis.

Keywords: Senior preschool age, visual activity, creative abilities, aesthetic taste, psychological development, creative thinking, imagination, fine motor skills, emotional development, art pedagogy, school preparation, visual perception, personality development, aesthetic education, child's social experience.

Introduction: In senior preschool age, one of the most important stages of personality development, creative abilities, and aesthetic taste formation in a child takes place. During this period, visual and artistic activity serves as an essential pedagogical means of the child's comprehensive development. Scientific studies in developmental psychology (L.S. Vygotsky, A.V. Zaporozhets, R.G. Safarova, and others) emphasize that visual and artistic activity is one of the main factors enriching a child's perception, thinking, imagination, memory, fine motor skills, and social experience.

Visual and artistic activity is the process through which a child perceives the surrounding environment, processes it, and creates creative images based on personal experience. According to psychologists, drawing, modeling, appliqué, and constructive activities

enable children to express their emotional states and inner world. Since visual–figurative thinking predominates in senior preschool age, artistic activity becomes a natural mechanism for development.

According to T.N. Komarova, artistic and creative abilities do not develop spontaneously; they require systematic pedagogical support. This viewpoint aligns with modern approaches to preschool pedagogy, which consider artistic activity a key mechanism of child development.

Artistic activity stimulates essential psychological functions in preschool children. The process of drawing or modeling involves visual perception, attention, imagination, and symbolic thinking. Children learn to distinguish shapes, colors, and textures, forming the foundation for subsequent academic learning.

Moreover, artistic expression allows preschool children to convey emotions that may be difficult to express verbally. As emphasized by T.S. Komarova, the continuous involvement of adults in creative activities helps maintain a child's emotional security and self-confidence.

In the works of T.L. Chabrova, the importance of artistic activity for the development of spiritual and aesthetic qualities is highlighted. Participation in drawing and creative tasks nurtures sensitivity to beauty, encourages reflection, and forms the foundation of moral and aesthetic values. Artistic activities initiated within the family context are particularly effective in strengthening emotional bonds and developing aesthetic awareness.

T.L. Chabrova and A.B. Yadgarova emphasize that the family plays a decisive role in the development of creative abilities. When parents involve children in drawing, handicrafts, and artistic games, they promote emotional development and stimulate the child's interest in creative activity.

Developmental functions of visual and artistic activity include:

Development of creative thinking. Children generate new ideas and enrich their imagination through visual representation.

Enhancement of fine motor skills. Actions such as holding a pencil, coloring, cutting, and gluing strengthen hand muscles.

Formation of aesthetic taste. Color harmony, beauty of forms, and compositional elements foster aesthetic perception.

Development of emotional intelligence. Children learn to express their mood, emotions, and inner states through images.

Influence on speech development. Vocabulary expands as children describe and comment on their drawings.

Improvement of problem-solving skills. During the creative process, children make independent decisions.

The role of visual and artistic activity in school readiness

Visual and artistic activity is an essential component of school preparation, as it:

- The development of hand muscles prepares children for writing;
- visual perception creates a foundation for mathematical concepts;
- working according to instructions, completing tasks, and maintaining concentration represent the initial stage of learning activity;
- creative work forms positive learning motivation in children.

The educational significance of visual and artistic activity in the personality development of preschool children

Visual and artistic activity fosters the development of such qualities in children as:

- patience,
- independence,
- neatness and cleanliness,
- the ability to complete tasks,
- the ability to express one's thoughts in an aesthetic form.

These qualities contribute to the formation of a flexible, purposeful, and resilient personality.

For children of senior preschool age, visual and artistic activity is an important factor not only in artistic development but also in intellectual, psychological, and personal growth. Artistic activity enhances creative thinking, perceptual processes, aesthetic taste, fine motor skills, and emotional intelligence. Therefore, it is essential to carefully organize visual and artistic activities in preschool educational institutions, ensure an individualized approach, and support children's independence.

Conclusion

Visual and artistic activity plays a significant pedagogical and psychological role in the development of preschool children. It serves as an effective means of fostering cognitive, aesthetic, and personal growth during a crucial stage of childhood development. Through artistic expression, children perceive and interpret the surrounding world, transforming their experiences into creative images. Visual activities contribute to the development of imagination, creative thinking, and

aesthetic taste. They also support the formation of fine motor skills and visual perception, which are essential for school readiness.

Artistic activity provides opportunities for children to express emotions that may be difficult to verbalize, thereby strengthening emotional stability and self-confidence. Moreover, systematic engagement in visual arts enhances attention, perseverance, and independent decision-making. Visual and artistic activity prepares children for academic learning by developing hand–eye coordination and task completion skills. The educational value of such activities is reinforced through teacher guidance and parental involvement. Ultimately, artistic activity supports the holistic development of the child, promoting creativity, emotional well-being, and readiness for future educational challenges.

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