

## PSYCHOLOGY OF DEVELOPING CREATIVE THINKING IN PRESCHOOL – AGE CHILDREN

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### Abstract

The article examines the psychology of developing creative thinking in preschool children. It highlights the importance of creative thinking, the teacher's role in fostering it, and modern methods and interactive approaches. The significance of cooperation between family and preschool educational institutions in developing children's creative potential is also discussed.

**Keywords:** Creative thinking, preschool education, child development, teacher, interactive methods, family cooperation.

### Introduction

The preschool age is a crucial stage in a child's personal, emotional, and social development. During this period, a child not only experiences physical growth but also develops cognitive abilities, emotions, creative potential, and social skills. Creative thinking enables a child to generate new ideas, solve problems independently, and actively interact with the surrounding environment. Therefore, it is particularly important to create an environment in preschool institutions that fosters creative thinking and to use effective methods for this purpose.

Developing creative thinking is a key factor in shaping a child's personality, enhancing independent thinking, and fostering the ability to solve various problems in life. At the same time, the role of the educator in preschool education is significant, as they create a safe and supportive environment while considering the child's interests and abilities, thus determining the main directions for developing children's creative potential.

Moreover, modern teaching methods, interactive and play-based approaches, as well as the use of information and communication technologies, serve as effective tools for enhancing children's imagination and thinking skills. Hence, the

psychology of developing creative thinking in preschool institutions has both scientific and practical significance.

## Literature Review

The issue of developing creative thinking in preschool children has been extensively studied in psychology and pedagogy. Both international and local scholars emphasize the importance of the educational environment in fostering children's imagination, creativity, and potential [1].

In international psychology, L.S. Vygotsky's theory of social environment and the zone of proximal development, as well as the research of J. Piaget and E. Erikson on children's cognitive and personal development, provide the main theoretical foundations for developing creative potential in preschool children. According to Vygotsky, collaboration with educators and interaction with the environment is a decisive factor in nurturing a child's creative and independent thinking.

Local scholars such as M. Usmonov, Sh. Akhmedova, and N. Rahimqulova highlight the importance of using play, visual and hands-on activities, role-play, and story-based games in the development of creative thinking in preschool children, as well as integrating national and universal values into the educational process. They note that a pedagogical environment organized based on the individual characteristics, interests, and abilities of children is the most effective method for fostering creative thinking.

Modern pedagogical and psychological literature considers interactive methods – problem-based learning, project-based methods, case studies, debates, and role-play – as highly effective in developing independent thinking and problem-solving skills in children. At the same time, the use of information and communication technologies contributes to the development of children's visual and creative thinking [2].

Overall, the literature review indicates that the application of psychological principles, interactive pedagogical methods, and modern technologies leads to successful outcomes in developing creative thinking in preschool children. The active involvement of educators and a learning environment tailored to individual characteristics ensures the effectiveness of this process.

The psychology of developing creative thinking in preschool children plays an important role in shaping their personal, emotional, and social potential. The

preschool period is the stage during which the foundations of imagination, creativity, and independent thinking are established. Therefore, educational and pedagogical methods aimed at fostering creative thinking during this stage are of great importance.

The main psychological characteristics of creative thinking are related to a child's imagination, problem-solving ability, potential for generating new ideas, and socio-emotional activity. Through imagination and visualization, children can create various images and storylines and apply innovative approaches in problem-solving. Social and emotional components contribute to a child's ability to express themselves, collaborate with others, and develop empathy skills [3].

In preschool institutions, play activities serve as the primary method for developing creative thinking. Story-based role plays, role-playing games, working with construction sets, and hands-on activities help develop children's imagination and independent problem-solving abilities. Additionally, drawing, music, and theatrical activities enhance aesthetic perception and creative thinking in children. Educators should encourage children to think independently and organize activities according to their interests and abilities.

Modern interactive methods are also effective in fostering creative thinking. Problem-based learning, project-based approaches, case studies, debates, and role-playing games deepen children's thinking skills and promote independent reasoning. Furthermore, information and communication technologies – such as electronic textbooks, virtual multimedia, and interactive platforms – are used to further enhance children's imagination and creative engagement [4].

In summary, the psychology of developing creative thinking in preschool children supports the development of independent thinking, idea generation, problem-solving skills, and social competencies. The active involvement of educators, interactive and play-based methods, as well as modern technologies, play a crucial role in nurturing children's creative potential.

## Discussion

The development of creative thinking in preschool children is one of the key research topics in psychology and pedagogy. Studies indicate that children's creative potential is a primary factor in shaping their activity levels, thinking skills, and social abilities. Therefore, active participation of educators, a supportive

environment, and interactive teaching methods are crucial for fostering children's imagination and independent thinking.

Children raised in a creative environment develop the ability to freely express their ideas, generate new concepts, and solve problems independently. Educators' support, combined with tasks tailored to children's interests and abilities, helps shape children into naturally creative, independent, and inquisitive individuals. A child with developed creative thinking does not merely acquire knowledge but also analyzes, compares, and articulates their thoughts with reasoning [5].

Modern pedagogical methods – story-based and role-playing games, problem-based learning, project approaches, case studies, debates, and interactive technologies – effectively develop children's critical thinking and their ability to apply theoretical knowledge in practice. The use of visual and audiovisual tools, multimedia, and interactive materials further strengthens children's imagination and visual thinking, encouraging independent creative activity.

Family collaboration is also of significant importance in developing creative thinking. Active participation of parents in educational activities, their support, and encouragement of creative engagement are key factors in developing a child's potential. Therefore, a "teacher-child-family" collaborative system in preschool institutions is crucial for achieving effective results. Regular communication, consultations, masterclasses, and creative events provide children with valuable experiences and support their creative potential.

The personal example of the educator is equally important in fostering creativity. An educator's sincerity, consistent and knowledgeable approach, as well as respect and trust toward children, promotes creative activity, experimentation with new ideas, and collaborative thinking. Additionally, educators should design activities considering children's individual needs and interests, maximizing the development of creative potential [6].

The discussion shows that developing creative thinking in preschool children is a complex process involving educator experience and expertise, use of interactive methods, modern technologies, and effective family collaboration. Only through such a comprehensive approach can a child's creative, emotional, and social potential be successfully nurtured.

Furthermore, the development of creative thinking provides a solid foundation for a child's future learning and success in life. A child with well-developed creative

thinking quickly absorbs new knowledge, solves problems independently, and actively participates in social interactions. This supports the main goal of preschool education: raising a well-rounded, independent, and creative individual.

## Results

The results of the research and observations indicate that several key factors play a decisive role in developing creative thinking in preschool children. First, the active and consistent involvement of the educator is crucial for enhancing children's imagination and independent thinking. The educator's sincerity, kindness, and professional competence support the child's creative initiatives, encourage experimentation with new ideas, and foster independent problem-solving.

Second, the presence of a stable and supportive environment plays a central role in strengthening children's creative potential. Such an environment allows children to freely express their ideas, generate new concepts, and develop their imagination and visualization skills. Moreover, a nurturing environment that supports creative activities enables children to demonstrate their best creative potential and apply their knowledge independently [7].

The third key factor is the use of modern pedagogical methods and technologies. Role-playing and story-based games, problem-based learning, project-based approaches, debates, and interactive technologies have proven effective in developing children's critical thinking and analytical abilities. Additionally, information and communication technologies, multimedia, and visual tools play an important role in enhancing children's visual thinking and creative skills. These resources motivate children to engage in independent creative activity and increase their interest in new knowledge and experiences.

The fourth important factor is effective collaboration with the family. Parents' active participation in activities, support, and encouragement of creative engagement reinforce the child's creative potential. Through such collaboration, the "educator-child-family" system becomes a foundation for the holistic development of the child. Regular communication, consultations, masterclasses, and creative events provide valuable experiences that support the child's creative development.

Overall, the development of creative thinking in preschool children occurs through the combined influence of the educator's professional competence, a stable and

supportive environment, modern pedagogical methods, and family collaboration. Only such an integrative approach ensures the effective development of a child's creative, emotional, and social potential, laying a solid foundation for their future learning and life success [8].

The findings also indicate that the development of creative thinking strengthens children's independent thinking, problem-solving abilities, and active participation in social interactions. This, in turn, fulfills the primary goal of preschool education: raising children as well-rounded, independent, and creative individuals.

## **Conclusion**

Developing creative thinking in preschool children is of decisive importance for their personal, emotional, and social development. Through creative thinking, children learn to think independently, generate new ideas, and analyze problems to find solutions.

A supportive and stable creative environment is a key factor in fostering children's potential. The educator's personal example, sincere attitude, and care enrich children's imagination and visualization skills while promoting independent thinking. Furthermore, interactive and modern pedagogical methods—including role-playing and story-based games, problem-based learning, project approaches, debates, and multimedia technologies—are effective in developing children's critical thinking and creative potential.

Collaboration with the family is also essential. Parents' active participation in educational activities, support, and encouragement strengthen children's creative potential and further develop their independent thinking.

In summary, developing creative thinking in preschool children is achieved through the combined influence of the educator's professional competence, an effective pedagogical environment, modern methods, and family collaboration. Only such a comprehensive approach ensures the full development of children's creative, emotional, and social potential, laying a firm foundation for their future education and life achievements.

Moreover, fostering creative thinking allows children to grow as independent, imaginative, inquisitive, and active individuals. This aligns with the primary goal of preschool education: raising a generation of well-rounded children with strong creative potential.

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