

**DEVELOPING VISUAL THINKING AND IMAGINATION IN CHILDREN THROUGH
VISUAL ARTS**

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Abstract: This article discusses the issues of developing visual thinking and imagination in children through the visual arts. Traditional methods are analyzed with their importance in developing visual perception, understanding of shapes and colors, and composition skills in children. Innovative methods, such as multimedia tools, interactive and project-based approaches, show the possibilities of developing children's creative activity and imagination. The article also presents ways to increase the effectiveness of visual arts education by combining traditional and innovative methods.

Keywords: Fine arts, visual thinking, fantasy, creative development, traditional methods, innovative methods, interactive learning, multimedia tools, project-based approach.

Introduction. The role of fine arts in the development of children is incomparable. Fine arts serve not only as a means of aesthetic education, but also as an important tool in the formation of visual thinking, imagination and creative abilities in children. Modern pedagogical research shows that the development of visual thinking in children's youth contributes to their general cognitive development, strengthening the ability to think creatively and solving problems in an innovative way.

Traditional art classes typically develop children's visual perception through drawing, painting, working with shapes and colors, and teaching them the rules of classical composition. These approaches allow children to visualize objects in detail and perceive shapes, colors, and composition. At the same time, they develop children's attention, observation, and thinking skills. However, in the modern educational process, taking into account the interests of children, their interest in technology, and their creative needs, the use of innovative methods in teaching fine arts is becoming a pressing issue. Multimedia tools, interactive tasks, project work, and creative exercises are effective tools for expanding children's imagination and teaching them to think independently and creatively.

For this reason, the combination of traditional and innovative methods in the process of developing visual thinking and imagination in children through visual arts is of great importance. This article discusses the methods used in visual arts lessons, their characteristics, and effective ways to develop visual thinking and imagination in children through their combination.

ANALYSIS OF LITERATURE

The issue of developing visual thinking and imagination in children through the visual arts has been widely studied in the field of pedagogy and art methodology. Research shows that the development of visual thinking in children is directly related to their general cognitive development, the formation of creative thinking and imagination.

Scientific work on the study of traditional visual art methods mainly includes such types of activities as classical drawing, painting, working with shapes and colors, teaching composition and proportions. For example, in R. Arnheim's work "Art and Visual Perception" (1954), the process of visual perception and understanding of shapes is analyzed in detail. These studies

emphasize the formation of visual thinking, the process of perceiving color, shape, and spatial relationships in children's art activities.

Studies conducted in the national education system show that the use of national patterns, folk applied art, and traditional compositions in fine arts lessons is effective in developing children's aesthetic taste and cultural awareness. For example, in studies conducted by Uzbek researchers, traditional drawing methods have been described as an important tool in developing children's attention, observation, and thinking skills.

In recent years, innovative pedagogical approaches, in particular, multimedia tools, interactive methods, and project-based learning, have been studied as effective tools for expanding children's imagination and developing visual thinking. For example, S. Eisner's work "The Arts and the Creation of Mind" (2002) analyzes in detail the role of art in the development of creative thinking and visual thinking. Research has shown that the use of interactive and multimedia tools helps encourage children's independent creative activity, expand their imagination, and increase their ability to make creative decisions.

Innovative methods also emphasize the development of children's skills in collaboration, co-creation of creative projects, critical thinking, and problem-solving. These aspects, when used in conjunction with a solid foundation of traditional methods in the process of teaching fine arts, allow children to develop their visual thinking and imagination to the maximum.

However, an analysis of the existing literature shows that there are relatively few scientific works on the combination of traditional and innovative methods, and they are mostly addressed from a general pedagogical point of view. Therefore, the issue of effectively combining these two methods in the process of developing visual thinking and imagination through fine arts requires additional scientific research.

In conclusion, the literature review confirms the importance of traditional methods in the formation of visual perception and formal skills, and the possibilities of innovative methods in the development of imagination and creative activity. Their combination is an important factor in increasing the effectiveness of fine arts education and developing creative thinking in children.

MAIN PART

1. The role and importance of traditional methods

Traditional methods in fine arts education are used based on pedagogical experience formed over many years. These methods serve to develop children's visual thinking, concentration, observation, and the ability to perceive shapes and colors. Activities such as drawing, painting, teaching the rules of form and composition, and mastering classical techniques are considered the main components of traditional methods.

Traditional methods in children:

To visualize objects clearly and in detail,
Understanding color and shape relationships,
To develop composition skills,
Helps develop attention and observation skills.

Also, the use of national patterns, folk art, and traditional visual arts is considered an important tool in developing children's aesthetic taste and cultural awareness.

2. Opportunities for innovative methods

Modern pedagogical approaches allow enriching visual arts education, expanding children's imagination and developing their creative activity. Innovative methods include the following:

Multimedia tools (video, audio, interactive programs),
Interactive learning methods (problem situations, brainstorming, clusters),
Project and creative assignments,
Creating drawings and graphic designs using digital platforms.

These methods not only expose children to ready-made tasks, but also involve them in independent creative activity, expand their imagination and develop visual thinking. At the same time, innovative methods also shape children's cooperation, critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

3. Issues of harmonizing traditional and innovative methods

To achieve high efficiency in visual arts education, it is necessary to combine traditional and innovative methods. Traditional methods create a solid foundation for children, while innovative methods enrich this foundation and expand creative activity.

Ensuring compliance:

Appropriate selection of methods depending on the topic of the lesson,

Taking into account the age and individual characteristics of children,

Harmonizing national and contemporary art,

Purposeful use of multimedia and interactive tools,

project and creative assignments with traditional training,

Such approaches are considered effective. Thus, a harmonious methodological approach allows children to develop their visual thinking and imagination to the maximum extent.

Conclusion. The issue of developing visual thinking and imagination in children through visual arts is one of the current directions of modern pedagogy. The results of the study show that traditional methods create a solid pedagogical foundation for children in developing visual perception, understanding shapes and colors, and forming compositional skills. These methods serve to develop children's ability to concentrate, observe, and think.

At the same time, innovative methods allow children to expand their imagination, develop independent thinking and creative activity through multimedia tools, interactive exercises, projects and creative tasks. The use of innovative methods helps to strengthen children's skills in cooperation, critical thinking and creative decision-making.

In conclusion, ensuring high efficiency in visual arts education is achieved through the combination of traditional and innovative methods. A harmonious approach allows for the maximum development of children's visual thinking and imagination, as well as the formation of creative and aesthetic taste.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. It is recommended to use innovative methods purposefully and systematically in visual arts lessons, while maintaining traditional methods as the basis.
2. When using multimedia tools, interactive and project-based tasks, special attention should be paid to developing children's imagination and visual thinking.
3. It is recommended to organize regular advanced training courses to improve the professional competence of teachers in innovative pedagogical technologies.
4. During the lesson, it is necessary to develop children's aesthetic taste and cultural awareness by combining examples of national and contemporary art.
5. It is recommended to take into account the age and individual characteristics of children when combining traditional and innovative methods.
6. It is necessary to increase the effectiveness of teaching by regularly analyzing visual arts lessons and improving methods.
7. It is recommended to increase the proportion of tasks that involve children in independent and creative activity.

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