

DEVELOPMENT OF CRITICAL THINKING AND PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS IN PRIMARY STUDENTS

Abdulborieva Mehruza Anvarovna

Doctoral student of Namangan State University

Annotation. This article is aimed at developing critical thinking and problem solving skills in primary school students. The article considers the importance of critical thinking, its role in primary education, as well as methods that promote its development. To develop critical thinking, teachers are recommended to organize activities based on modern pedagogical methods, group work, discussions, interactive technologies and problem situations. The article emphasizes that the development of critical thinking helps students not only in mastering knowledge, but also in making the right decisions in various life situations.

Keywords. Critical thinking, primary education, problem solving, creative thinking, development of skills in students, pedagogical methods, interactive technologies, group work.

Introduction.

Developing critical thinking and problem-solving skills in primary education is one of the important directions of the modern education system. This process not only helps to increase students' general knowledge, but also helps to form their independent thinking, analytical thinking and problem-solving skills. Critical thinking helps students analyze new information, evaluate it carefully, and make logical and informed decisions in difficult situations. Developing critical thinking also helps students improve their social and intellectual performance, and help them become active and responsible citizens in society.

Developing critical thinking in primary school teaches students not only to express their own thoughts clearly and concisely, but also to listen to and evaluate other opinions.

This helps students see problems from different perspectives and find solutions. It is known that primary school students are ready to be guided by teachers in forming their own opinions, so the role of the teacher in developing critical thinking is very important. Teachers help students develop their logical thinking and analytical thinking skills by teaching them critical thinking.

Modern technologies and methods are also of great importance in developing critical thinking in primary school. Interactive games, simulations, group work and problem-based activities are effective tools in developing students' thinking skills. Teaching students to work in groups, exchange ideas and solve problems together helps them to implement critical thinking and creative approaches. At the same time, developing critical thinking also helps to increase students' self-awareness and self-confidence.

Therefore, the development of critical thinking and problem-solving skills in primary school students not only improves the quality of the educational process, but also has a positive impact on the personal development of students. This, in turn, creates the basis for their formation as active and responsible citizens in society. The use of advanced pedagogical methods and modern technologies in the development of critical thinking helps students form the skills necessary for success in their future lives.

The development of critical thinking and problem-solving skills in primary school students remains one of the most pressing issues in the education system today. Each student is required not only to master the necessary knowledge and apply it in practice, but also to express their own opinion and develop an independent approach to solving problems. Critical thinking, in addition to solving simple problems, teaches students skills such as making the right decisions in different situations, thinking and logical analysis. Therefore, developing critical thinking and problem-solving in primary education directly affects the educational success of not only teachers but also students.

Critical thinking is not just about memorizing information or accepting it in a illogical way, but also about analyzing this information, using it as a basis for making

decisions, and carefully evaluating it. Developing this ability is especially important for primary school students, as they are still trying to articulate their thoughts and make the right decisions in complex situations. Developing critical thinking helps students form their own worldview, teaches them a systematic approach to solving problems, and teaches them to respect different points of view.

One of the effective methods for developing critical thinking in primary education is to organize learning activities based on problem situations. In this method, students are given tasks to solve real-life problems, and they freely express their thoughts, compare different ideas, and try to find the most optimal solution. For example, students can be given tasks to analyze problems based on simple everyday situations, make decisions, and monitor their results. This method develops students' creative thinking, the ability to see problems from different angles and analyze each situation more deeply.

Organizing group work and discussions is also an effective method for developing critical thinking. During the discussion, students have the opportunity to listen to each other's opinions, analyze them, justify their points of view, and exchange ideas with others. This teaches students to express their opinions logically, respect other points of view, and establish a dialogue with them. Also, in group work, students learn to work as a team and develop mutual cooperation. This method certainly strengthens critical thinking, because students further consolidate their knowledge in the process of thinking together.

In addition, the use of interactive technologies greatly helps in developing critical thinking. Through modern digital tools, online games, simulations, and interactive tests, students learn to solve problems, and also create various opportunities for themselves. For example, interactive simulations help students make decisions based on different situations, which in turn increases students' analytical and reasoning skills.

The role of the teacher in developing critical thinking is very important. The teacher is not only a provider of knowledge, but also a mentor who teaches students to think independently, make decisions, and justify their opinions. The teacher should adapt his/her

methods, taking into account the age and psychological characteristics of the students. For example, for primary school students, the teacher can use more visual and interactive methods, develop thinking through group work and games.

By developing critical thinking, students have the opportunity to apply their knowledge not only in the classroom, but also in life. They change their approach to solving problems, gain confidence in making decisions, and learn to clearly express their thoughts. The ultimate goal of developing critical thinking is to develop students' independent thinking and problem-solving skills.

The importance of developing critical thinking in primary education is increasing. It allows students to acquire the basic skills that will be necessary for a successful future life. There is an opportunity to develop these skills through creative approaches of teachers, modern pedagogical methods and technologies. The development of critical thinking not only improves the quality of education, but also helps students to become active and responsible citizens in society.

Conclusion

The development of critical thinking in primary school students is an integral part of the educational system today. This process not only increases the level of knowledge of students, but also prepares them to solve real-life problems. Modern pedagogical methods, group work, interactive technologies and activities based on problem situations play an important role in the development of critical thinking. The role of the teacher is also great, he helps students to learn independent thinking and develop their creative abilities. Thus, the development of critical thinking helps students to become self-governing, make decisions and become responsible citizens.

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