

World Bulletin of Social Sciences (WBSS) Available Online at: https://www.scholarexpress.net Vol. 24, July 2023 ISSN: 2749-361X

FORMATION OF CRITICAL AND CREATIVE THINKING IN FIRST GRADE STUDENTS

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Article history:	Abstract:
Received: 12 th May 2023	This article is devoted to an important problem - the formation of critical and
Accepted: 12 th June 2023	creative thinking in first graders. Methods and approaches that help develop
Published: 18 th July 2023	these skills in children are considered. Particular attention is paid to stimulating their curiosity and active exploration of the world around them, developing critical thinking and the ability to reason. Also considered are methods for the development of creative thinking, such as open-ended tasks and a game form of learning. The article emphasizes the importance of the role of the family and the creation of a favorable environment in the classroom for the successful formation of these skills in first graders.
Keywords: formation critical thinkin	a creative thinking first graders educational process stimulation open-ended

Keywords: formation, critical thinking, creative thinking, first graders, educational, process, stimulation, open-ended tasks, supportive environment, family support, social skills, play, analysis, problem solving, communication, development methods, active research, educational role, logical thinking, innovation, successful learning.

Critical and creative thinking are important skills that help children develop analytical thinking, the ability to reason and make informed decisions. In modern education, more and more attention is paid to the formation of these skills from the very beginning of the educational path, including first-graders. In this article, we will look at some methods and approaches that help develop critical and creative thinking in first graders.[1.106-108]

One of the key aspects of the formation of critical and creative thinking in first graders is to stimulate their curiosity and active exploration of the world around them. The child should be encouraged to ask questions, seek answers on their own, and make their own observations. The teacher can organize exciting lessons, conduct experiments, visit museums and exhibitions in order to broaden the horizons of students and introduce elements of non-standard learning. [2. 78-80]

An important aspect is the development of critical thinking in children. To do this, it is necessary to teach them to analyze information, compare and draw conclusions. Lessons may include discussion of texts, tasks for logical thinking, games where children must make decisions based on the information available. Such activities help to develop the skills of reasoning, evaluation and making informed decisions in first graders.

Creative thinking also plays an important role in the development of children. It helps them to see problems from different angles, find non-standard solutions and show their individuality. In the learning process, you can include tasks that require children to go beyond the standard answers and find alternative solutions. Such activities may include drawing, building, storytelling or games where children are encouraged to use their imagination and creativity. Such tasks stimulate children's imagination and ability to think outside the box.[4. 47-50]

One of the effective methods for developing creative thinking in first graders is the use of problem situations and open-ended tasks. Instead of offering ready-made solutions, the teacher can ask questions that require children to find solutions on their own. For example, you can offer a task where the child needs to figure out how to get an egg over an obstacle without breaking it, or ask them to describe what items can be used to build an airplane out of a box. Such tasks develop creative thinking in children, the ability to find non-standard solutions and show their individuality. [5.65-67]

An important aspect of the formation of critical and creative thinking among first-graders is the creation of a favorable environment in the classroom, where children feel comfortable and freely express their thoughts. The teacher should encourage their ideas, listen carefully to their opinions, and also support their self-esteem. It is important that children are not afraid to make mistakes and see them as an opportunity to improve their skills.

Thus, the formation of critical and creative thinking in first graders plays an important role in their educational process. It helps develop the skills of analysis, reasoning, informed decision making and creative thinking in children. Providing opportunities for active exploration of the world, the use of openended problems and the creation of a supportive



classroom environment contribute to the successful development of these skills in first graders.

The role of the family is also important for the successful formation of critical and creative thinking among first-graders. Parents can support the development of these skills by creating a stimulating environment at home. They can encourage the child to ask questions, discuss various situations, develop his observational and analytical skills. In addition, family reading, visiting museums, exhibitions and interesting places will help expand the child's horizons and inspire him with new ideas.

It is also important to teach first-graders to work in a team and develop communication skills. Group projects and activities that require cooperation and exchange of ideas will help children learn to listen to each other, respect the opinions of their comrades, and accept compromises. This develops their social skills and encourages the growth of critical and creative thinking.

We should not forget about the importance of the game in the development of critical and creative thinking in first graders. In a playful way, children can experiment, try new ideas, solve problems and overcome difficulties. Games that require logical thinking, solving puzzles or creating their own stories will help develop children's analysis, planning and creative thinking skills.

The formation of critical and creative thinking among first-graders is an important task of the educational system. Active exploration of the world around them, the use of problematic situations and open-ended tasks, support from the family, the development of communication skills and play help develop these important cognitive skills in children. Creating a suitable environment where children feel confident and freely express their ideas contributes to the successful formation of critical and creative thinking in first graders, which will be useful for their further learning and personal development. Developing these skills from an early age will help first graders become active and creative learners, able to think, analyze and find solutions on their own. This will not only help them in their studies, but will also be useful in their future life, where flexibility of thinking and the ability to find innovative solutions are required.[6.75-78]

The educational system and the family should work together to develop critical and creative thinking in first graders. The teacher plays an important role in creating a stimulating educational environment where children can develop and display their talents. Parents, on the other hand, should support their interests, encourage their ideas and include activities in everyday life that contribute to the development of critical and creative thinking.

The modern world requires us to be innovative and to think critically and creatively. Therefore, the formation of these skills in first-graders is one of the important tasks of education. If children learn to analyze information, see different solutions and show their creative thought already at the initial stage of education, then this will serve as a reliable foundation for them to succeed in the future. Therefore, we must focus our efforts on developing critical and creative thinking in first graders to prepare them for the challenges and opportunities they will face in life. [7. 150]

In conclusion, it can be noted that the formation of critical and creative thinking among firstgraders is important for their successful development and adaptation in modern society. These skills allow children to become active and independent thinkers, able to analyze information, find solutions and come up with innovative ideas.

An important role in the formation of critical and creative thinking among first-graders is played by the educational system, including school and teachers. Creating a stimulating learning environment, using methods and activities that encourage the development of these skills, and supporting and encouraging children's interests and ideas are important aspects of successful learning.

In addition, the family also plays an important role in the formation of critical and creative thinking in first graders. Parents can support their interests, engage in activities together that develop these skills, and create a supportive environment for their development. Recognizing the importance of critical and creative thinking from an early age allows us to focus on developing these skills in first graders. This will help them not only in their studies, but in life in general, providing them with the tools to successfully adapt and achieve success in the future. [8. 96-100]

As a result, the formation of critical and creative thinking among first-graders is one of the important tasks of education and requires the joint efforts of the educational system, family and society as a whole. This is an investment in the future of children and the development of society, contributing to their successful formation and achievement of personal and professional growth.

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