THE IMPORTANCE OF USING INTERACTIVE METHODS TO ENHANCE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF MORAL EDUCATION IN PRESCHOOL EDUCATION

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Abstract: *This article explores the role of interactive teaching methods in improving the effectiveness of moral education in preschool institutions. In today's educational process, the use of interactive approaches such as role-playing games, discussions, storytelling, problem-solving activities, and digital learning tools helps to make moral concepts more understandable and engaging for young children. The study emphasizes that interactive methods not only contribute to the development of communication skills, collaboration, and critical thinking but also allow children to internalize values such as respect, honesty, empathy, and responsibility in a natural and playful way. Moreover, the integration of national cultural elements into interactive activities strengthens children's sense of identity and moral responsibility. The article concludes that the systematic application of interactive methods can significantly increase the efficiency of moral education in preschool institutions and ensure the holistic development of the child's personality.*

Keywords: *Moral education, preschool education, interactive methods, child development, pedagogy, play-based learning, communication skills, cultural values, innovation.*

Moral education is considered one of the essential foundations of preschool education, as it plays a vital role in shaping children's character, social behavior, and worldview. However, traditional didactic methods are often insufficient in fostering deep moral understanding among young children. Preschoolers learn best through active participation, play, and interaction, which makes interactive teaching methods highly effective in this context.

The introduction of interactive approaches allows educators to transform the process of moral upbringing into a dynamic and engaging experience. Activities such as group discussions, dramatizations, role-plays, cooperative games, and digital tools create opportunities for children to explore ethical situations and practice decision-making in a supportive environment. Through these methods, moral values are not imposed but discovered, experienced, and internalized by children themselves.

Another important aspect is the incorporation of national traditions and cultural heritage into interactive learning activities. Folklore, oral storytelling, and traditional games can be used as effective tools to instill values that are both universal and culturally

meaningful. This integration ensures that children not only acquire moral concepts but also develop a strong sense of national identity and belonging.

Thus, the use of interactive methods in preschool moral education is not only a pedagogical necessity but also a key factor in raising a generation of responsible, empathetic, and culturally aware individuals.

Moral education in preschool institutions is not limited to teaching children what is "good" or "bad." It is about forming a strong ethical foundation, developing a sense of responsibility, respect, empathy, and honesty, and preparing children to live in harmony with others in society. In this process, interactive methods have proven to be highly effective because they actively engage children in learning, make abstract concepts concrete, and encourage active participation. Unlike traditional methods of instruction, which often rely on listening and repeating, interactive approaches enable children to experience, practice, and internalize moral values in real-life contexts.

One of the strongest advantages of interactive methods is that they create a child-centered learning environment. Preschool-aged children are naturally curious and learn through play, exploration, and communication. By using role-play, dramatization, and cooperative games, teachers can create scenarios in which children face moral dilemmas and make decisions. For example, a simple role-play about sharing toys helps children to experience fairness and empathy in action. Rather than being told that "sharing is good," children discover it through interaction, feedback, and emotional engagement.

Storytelling is another interactive method that plays a powerful role in moral development. Traditional folktales, fables, and stories from cultural heritage often contain moral lessons that resonate deeply with children. By asking questions, encouraging predictions, and involving children in retelling or dramatizing the story, educators turn storytelling into an interactive activity. This helps children not only to understand the story but also to reflect on the meaning of honesty, kindness, bravery, or respect. Incorporating national oral traditions into storytelling ensures that moral education is culturally relevant and rooted in children's identity.

Group discussions are also effective for preschoolers when adapted to their developmental level. Teachers can present simple everyday situations—such as helping a friend, telling the truth, or respecting elders—and ask children how they would respond. Even though preschool children may not yet have fully developed reasoning skills, the process of expressing opinions, listening to others, and discussing ideas enhances their social understanding. It also encourages respect for different perspectives, which is an important moral quality in itself.

Problem-solving activities and project-based learning are other interactive approaches that can enrich moral education. For instance, children can work together to create a classroom "kindness project," where they plan how to help others in the group or the wider community. Such activities encourage cooperation, responsibility, and collective decision-making, all of which contribute to the development of moral consciousness. Moreover, when children experience the outcomes of their actions—such as the joy of helping or the appreciation of others—they develop intrinsic motivation to act morally.

The use of digital technologies in preschool education also opens new opportunities for interactive moral education. Educational apps, interactive cartoons, and digital storytelling platforms can provide children with engaging moral scenarios in which they make choices and see the consequences. While digital tools should never replace personal interaction, they can complement traditional methods and make moral learning more appealing for today's generation of children, who grow up surrounded by technology.

Importantly, interactive methods allow for the integration of cultural and national values into the educational process. In Uzbekistan and many other countries, folklore, proverbs, riddles, and traditional games provide a rich source of moral wisdom. When used interactively—such as by involving children in games that emphasize fairness or storytelling sessions that highlight historical heroes—these cultural tools strengthen children's sense of belonging and identity while also fostering universal moral qualities. This balance between national identity and universal values is critical in a globalized world, where children must be both rooted in their culture and open to diversity.

Another significant contribution of interactive methods is their impact on communication and emotional development. Moral education is closely tied to emotional intelligence, as children must be able to recognize, understand, and regulate emotions in order to act ethically. Through interactive games, role-plays, and cooperative tasks, children practice expressing feelings, understanding others' emotions, and responding with empathy. For example, in a game where one child pretends to be sad, others learn how to comfort and support, thereby practicing empathy in a natural context.

Teachers play a crucial role in organizing and facilitating interactive methods. Their task is not to dictate moral rules but to create meaningful situations, guide reflection, and encourage self-expression. This requires pedagogical creativity and flexibility, as interactive lessons cannot be fully scripted; they depend on children's responses, ideas, and emotions. Therefore, educators must be trained in modern pedagogical strategies and equipped with both professional and cultural competencies to successfully integrate interactive methods into moral education.

Parents also play an important role, as interactive methods work best when reinforced at home. Collaboration between preschool institutions and families ensures consistency in moral upbringing. For example, parents can be encouraged to continue role-play scenarios or storytelling at home, creating a shared educational experience. This partnership strengthens the effectiveness of moral education and ensures that children see values as relevant in both school and family life.

In conclusion, the use of interactive methods in preschool moral education is not only a pedagogical innovation but also a necessity in the modern educational context. These methods make learning dynamic, meaningful, and enjoyable, allowing children to internalize values in ways that are developmentally appropriate and culturally grounded. By combining play, storytelling, discussion, problem-solving, and digital tools with national traditions and family collaboration, preschool institutions can significantly enhance the effectiveness of moral education. This approach not only develops morally

responsible children but also fosters future citizens who are empathetic, respectful, and deeply connected to their cultural identity.

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