



FAIRY TALE THERAPY FOR DEVELOPING SPEECH IN
PRESCHOOL CHILDREN

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Abstract: *This article explores the theoretical and practical aspects of using fairy tale therapy to develop speech in preschool children. The study analyzes fairy tale therapy as an effective method for expanding vocabulary, shaping grammatical structures, developing coherent speech, and enhancing communication skills. It also discusses practical ways to implement fairy tale therapy in preschool educational institutions, including role-playing, story continuation exercises, and art-based activities. The article is intended for educators, preschool specialists, and students in the field of early childhood education.*

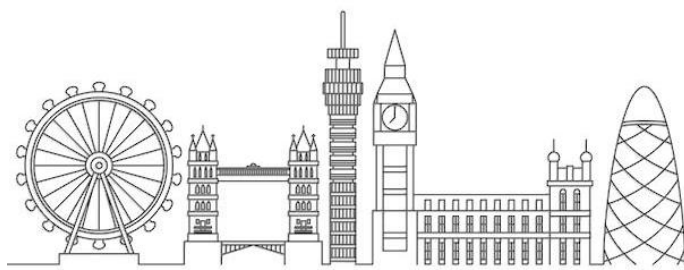
Keywords: *fairy tale therapy, speech development, preschool education, oral speech, pedagogical technology.*

Annotatsiya: *Ushbu maqola maktabgacha yoshdagi bolalar nutqini rivojlantirishda ertak terapiyasining nazariy va amaliy asoslarini o'rganadi. Tadqiqotda ertak terapiyasi bolaning so'z boyligini oshirish, grammatik tuzilmani shakllantirish, bog'lanishli nutqni rivojlantirish va muloqot ko'nikmalarini mustahkamlashdagi samarali metod sifatida tahlil qilinadi. Shu bilan birga, maktabgacha ta'lim muassasalarida ertak terapiyasini qo'llash usullari ham ko'rsatib beriladi. Maqola pedagoglar va maktabgacha ta'lim sohasidagi mutaxassislar uchun metodik ahamiyatga ega.*

Kalit so'zlar: *ertak terapiyasi, nutq rivoji, maktabgacha ta'lim, og'zaki nutq, pedagogik texnologiyalar.*

Аннотация: *Статья посвящена изучению теоретических и практических аспектов использования сказкотерапии в развитии речи детей дошкольного возраста. В исследовании сказкотерапия рассматривается как эффективный метод расширения словарного запаса, формирования грамматической структуры, развития связной речи и коммуникативных навыков. Также рассматриваются способы применения сказкотерапии в дошкольных образовательных учреждениях. Материал представляет интерес для педагогов и специалистов дошкольного образования.*

Ключевые слова: *сказкотерапия, развитие речи, дошкольное образование, устная речь, педагогические технологии.*





Introduction

Speech development in preschool children is one of the most crucial tasks in early childhood education. Speech serves as a key tool for a child's social adaptation, cognitive growth, and personal development. Delays in speech can lead to difficulties in literacy, learning, and social interaction during primary school years.

Modern pedagogical practices emphasize the use of innovative methods to stimulate speech development. One of the most effective and widely researched methods is fairy tale therapy. This approach uses stories to engage children actively in language activities, enhance vocabulary, develop coherent speech, and improve communication skills. Fairy tale therapy also contributes to emotional development, creativity, and social understanding.

The purpose of this article is to examine how fairy tale therapy can be systematically implemented in preschool institutions to foster speech development in children aged 3 to 6 years.

Theoretical framework

1. Psychological Foundations of Fairy Tale Therapy

Fairy tale therapy is based on the intersection of pedagogy and developmental psychology. It aims to develop a child's cognitive, emotional, and communicative skills through narrative engagement. Listening to stories allows children to process emotions, understand cause-and-effect relationships, and practice verbal expression.

From a psychological perspective, fairy tales:

Enhance imagination and creativity;

Encourage emotional regulation;

Improve attention and memory;

Foster social understanding through identification with characters.

Lev Vygotsky emphasized the role of social interaction in language development. Fairy tale therapy aligns with his theory, as storytelling involves active engagement, dialogue, and scaffolding by adults or peers.

2. Characteristics of Preschool Children's Speech

Preschool speech development is marked by significant growth in vocabulary, sentence structure, and communicative competence. Children at this stage:

Expand their vocabulary rapidly;

Begin forming complex sentences;

Develop correct pronunciation;

Improve narrative skills and coherent speech.

At this developmental stage, interventions like fairy tale therapy can effectively maximize speech potential by providing meaningful and motivating language experiences.

3. Methods of Implementing Fairy Tale Therapy

Fairy tale therapy can be implemented in various interactive ways:





MODERN PROBLEMS IN EDUCATION AND THEIR SCIENTIFIC SOLUTIONS

3.1 Storytelling and Discussion

Teachers read a story aloud and encourage children to discuss characters, events, and feelings. This approach develops comprehension, narrative skills, and expressive language.

3.2 Role-Playing and Dramatization

Children act out stories, take on roles of characters, and participate in dialogue. Role-playing enhances verbal fluency, social interaction, and confidence in speech.

3.3 Story Continuation Activities

Teachers ask children to continue a story in their own words. This activity promotes creative thinking, vocabulary expansion, and complex sentence formation.

3.4 Art-Based Story Activities

Children draw or craft scenes from stories. Afterward, they describe their artwork, further reinforcing vocabulary and narrative skills.

4. Practical Benefits of Fairy Tale Therapy

Fairy tale therapy supports multiple dimensions of child development:

Linguistic: Expands vocabulary, strengthens grammar, and enhances coherent speech.

Cognitive: Encourages memory, sequencing, problem-solving, and reasoning skills.

Social-Emotional: Develops empathy, emotional expression, and understanding of social roles.

Creative: Stimulates imagination, storytelling, and artistic expression.

By integrating these activities into the preschool curriculum, educators provide a holistic approach to speech development.

5. Guidelines for Educators

To maximize the effectiveness of fairy tale therapy, teachers should:

Select age-appropriate stories with clear plots;

Use repetition and reinforcement of new vocabulary;

Encourage children to express opinions and describe feelings;

Incorporate multimodal activities (drawing, dramatization, and discussion);

Provide positive feedback to increase motivation and confidence.

These practices ensure that children not only develop language skills but also build critical thinking and social-emotional competencies.

Case examples and applications

Several practical studies have shown the effectiveness of fairy tale therapy:

A group of 4-year-old children who participated in daily storytelling and role-play activities for three months showed a measurable increase in expressive vocabulary and sentence complexity.

Story continuation exercises improved children's narrative abilities, as they learned to sequence events logically and describe characters' actions.

Art-based storytelling enhanced both verbal and non-verbal communication, helping children convey ideas through speech and visual expression.





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These examples demonstrate that fairy tale therapy can be tailored to different learning contexts and individual needs.

Conclusion

Fairy tale therapy is an effective pedagogical tool for developing speech in preschool children. It positively influences vocabulary growth, coherent speech formation, and communicative competence. Systematic implementation of fairy tale therapy in preschool settings supports linguistic, cognitive, social-emotional, and creative development. Educators should carefully select stories appropriate for the child's age and speech level, combining multiple interactive methods to achieve the best outcomes.

By fostering an engaging and supportive learning environment, fairy tale therapy not only enhances speech development but also contributes to children's overall personal growth and readiness for primary education.

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