

EFFECTIVENESS OF TEACHING THROUGH RIDDLE

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research is to provide information about the effectiveness of teaching through riddle and incorporating riddles into language teaching activities can make learning more engaging and enjoyable for students while enhancing their vocabulary, comprehension skills, verbal fluency, reading abilities, writing practice, and cultural awareness

Keywords: riddle, incorporating riddles, vocabulary, comprehension skills, verbal fluency, reading abilities, writing practice, and cultural awareness

Riddles often make us laugh out loud. We all know that laughter is health-giving, relaxing the brain and body, helping us release stress, encouraging positive mental health. Riddles can support children's problem solving, logic and critical thinking skills. If we wrestle with a riddle for a period of time it can help our concentration, focus and brain dexterity. Riddles can be a wonderful challenge which help to motivate children to continue working. Riddles have been shown to improve children's comprehension and creativity. They're likely to learn new words and new ways to use them, subliminally learning rhythm and rhyming. Riddles help us to bond with each other, when we're working out riddles together we become a team on a giant quest. Children can share the riddles they've learnt with family members, peers and teachers thus engaging in playful intellectual discussion and banter, allowing them to teach and learn all at the same time.

Here are some riddles for you to guess.

- Where can you find cities, towns, shops and streets, but no people?
- As light as air, there's nothing in it, and no one can hold it for more than a minute.
- I follow the sun from north to south, my name, the answer, is in your mouth.
- Which bow can't be untied?
- What has 22 legs and 2 wings but cannot fly?
- Once in a minute, twice in a moment, but never in a thousand years.
- Into this world I am born, without substance, shape or form, I give a cry and then am silent forever. What am I?
- What is the only water you can carry in a sieve?
- There is one that has a head without an eye and one that has an eye without a head. You may find the answer if you try, and when all is said half the answer hangs upon a thread.
- What goes around the world, but stays in the corner?
- Give me food and I will live, give me water and I will die. What am I?

Riddles are fun but they're more beneficial for children than you might first imagine and perhaps in more ways than you might expect too! However I suggest that you don't give the answer away too quickly, otherwise many of the benefits are lost...

Riddles are a very useful educational tool for children. Not only are they fun, but they can also help develop important learning and problem-solving skills.

Among the many benefits of riddles we can highlight:

Development of critical thinking skills. Riddles help children develop their critical thinking skills by requiring them to analyze information, think logically, and find creative solutions to problems. Riddles require students to think critically and analytically to find the solution. They promote logical reasoning, problem-solving, and decision-making abilities.

Improved problem-solving skills. When faced with a puzzle, children must identify the problem, consider different approaches and strategies to solve it, and find a solution.

Development of creativity. Riddles foster creativity and imagination, very useful skills in areas such as science or math, but also in communication.

Improved memory and concentration. Solving riddles requires attention to detail and retention of information.

Encouraging teamwork and collaboration. Many riddles can be solved in teams, which fosters collaboration among students and improves social relationships within the classroom.

Increased self-esteem and confidence. When children solve a riddle, they feel proud of their accomplishments and skills.

Improved communication. Through riddles, children are able to learn new words that will enrich their vocabulary.

Creativity and imagination: Many riddles involve thinking creatively and using one's imagination to come up with unconventional answers. This encourages students to think beyond the obvious and explore different possibilities.

Language development: Riddles often use wordplay, puns, and clever associations, which can enhance vocabulary, comprehension skills, and linguistic abilities. Students need to understand the subtle meanings and nuances of words or phrases in order to solve the riddle.

Cognitive development: By engaging in riddle-solving activities, students exercise their cognitive skills such as memory, attention span, concentration, and mental agility. This can contribute to overall cognitive development.

Motivation and engagement: Riddles provide an enjoyable learning experience that can motivate students to actively participate in classroom activities. They add an element of fun and excitement to the learning process, making education more engaging.

Teamwork and collaboration: Riddles can be solved individually or as a group activity. Working together to solve riddles promotes teamwork, collaboration, effective communication skills, and the ability to listen to others' perspectives.

Cultural knowledge: Some riddles are based on cultural references or historical events, providing an opportunity for students to learn about different cultures or time periods while solving the riddle. Riddles often incorporate cultural references or historical knowledge, exposing students to different cultural perspectives or historical events they might not encounter otherwise. By solving riddles from different cultures or time periods, students gain a broader understanding of the world around them.

Riddles play a crucial role in teaching language skills to students. Here are some specific ways in which riddles contribute to language development:

Vocabulary Expansion: Riddles expose students to new words and phrases, challenging them to understand and interpret their meanings. By engaging with riddles regularly, students can expand their vocabulary and learn how words can be used creatively.

Comprehension Skills: Riddles require students to read or listen carefully to understand the clues and context provided. This enhances their comprehension skills as they analyze the information given and make connections between different pieces of information.

Verbal Fluency: Riddles encourage students to express their thoughts and ideas verbally as they discuss possible solutions with their peers or teachers. This practice improves their verbal fluency and ability to communicate effectively.

Reading Skills: Solving riddles involves reading, interpreting, and analyzing written text. By regularly engaging with riddles, students can improve their reading skills, such as speed, accuracy, and comprehension.

Writing Practice: Riddles can also be used as a writing exercise where students are asked to create their own riddles or write explanations for the solutions of existing ones. This helps develop their writing skills, including creativity, organization, and clarity of expression.

Riddles can have a positive impact on the effectiveness of speech by enhancing communication skills, promoting critical thinking, and improving problem-solving abilities. When individuals engage in riddle-solving activities, they have to think creatively and articulate their thoughts clearly in order to convey their ideas or guesses. This helps in developing effective speech patterns and improving overall communication skills. Riddles also encourage active listening as individuals need to carefully listen to the clues given and analyze them before responding. This enhances comprehension skills and the ability to understand others' perspectives, which are crucial aspects of effective speech. Furthermore, riddles often require individuals to think outside the box and come up with innovative solutions. This promotes creativity and encourages individuals to express their ideas in unique ways during speech activities.

In summary, riddles can have a positive impact on education by fostering critical thinking, problem-solving skills, language development, memory enhancement, and overall engagement and motivation in the learning process. Incorporating riddles into educational activities can make learning more enjoyable and effective for students. Incorporating riddles into language teaching activities can make learning more engaging and enjoyable for students while enhancing their vocabulary, comprehension skills, verbal fluency, reading abilities, writing practice, and cultural awareness. Incorporating riddles into education can promote critical thinking skills, creativity, language development, cognitive abilities, motivation, teamwork, and cultural knowledge among students. In short, riddles can help develop important learning and problem-solving skills as well as improve creativity, memory and concentration. They are also a fun and exciting way to learn, which helps to motivate students and keep them interested in learning. Incorporating riddles into speech-related activities can be beneficial as they stimulate cognitive processes, improve communication skills, and contribute to more effective speech delivery.

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