THE EFFECTIVENESS OF USING INTERACTIVE METHODS IN PRIMARY GRADES

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ABSTRACT

This article highlights the issues of effectively using interactive methods and modern technologies in primary grades. The significance of innovative approaches in the educational process and methods of making the learning experience engaging and effective for students are analyzed. Additionally, various interactive techniques and the use of multimedia tools are discussed.

Keywords: Primary grades, method, didactic task, FSMS, interactive methods, modern technologies, innovative education, pedagogical technologies, multimedia tools.

INTRODUCTION

In the education system, it is well known that students' learning is of primary importance. To ensure that students effectively grasp the knowledge provided by the teacher, it is necessary to employ various teaching methods. When discussing the integration of new methods or innovations into the educational process, the application of interactive techniques in the learning process comes to mind. Currently, modern teaching methods are widely used in education. The use of interactive teaching methods leads to high efficiency in the learning process. Selecting these methods based on the didactic objectives of each lesson is advisable.

Not only should the teacher be active, but the student should also be actively engaged in the learning process, as this is a key requirement of modern education. Lessons should be structured in a way that matches students' psychological characteristics, using various methods, including games, to enhance comprehension. To prevent students from getting bored during lessons, different methods should be employed to make the learning process engaging. Even when reading a book, one can discover various meanings on its pages.

For example, in L.N. Skatkin's book "Methodology" the word "method" frequently appears in the chapters covering general methodological issues. However, in chapters addressing specific issues, the author replaces the term "method" with "technique". When choosing interactive teaching methods, factors such as educational goals, the number and abilities of students, the material and technical conditions of the educational institution, the duration of instruction, and the teacher's pedagogical skills should be considered.

Interactive methods are those that activate the learner and encourage independent thinking, placing the learner at the center of the educational process. When these methods are applied, the educator encourages students to actively participate in learning. Interactive methods involve discussing a particular topic or solving a problem through mutual dialogue, debate, and teamwork. The advantage of this approach is that it trains students to think independently and prepares them for real-life situations. Interactive methods also enhance students' initiative and teamwork skills. When lessons are conducted using interactive methods, students' interest in learning increases, and the quality of education improves.

Lessons taught through interactive methods encourage students to think positively, actively process information, express their opinions freely, collaborate with others, and articulate their thoughts in writing. Using interactive methods in lessons does not mean abandoning traditional methods entirely; rather, it involves solving educational content collaboratively and dynamically. Interaction implies activity, meaning that the lesson takes place through mutual communication between the teacher and the students.

Like any approach, the use of interactive methods has its objectives. The primary goal of interactive methods is to create the most favorable conditions for the learning process, enabling students to think freely and actively. This approach not only helps students showcase their intellectual potential and abilities but also improves the quality and effectiveness of education.

Currently, more than a hundred types of interactive methods exist, most of which have been tested and proven to be effective. Commonly used methods such as "Cluster" , "Brainstorming" , "Continue the Story" , "Presentation" , "Blitz Survey" and "Problem Situation" can lead to successful lesson outcomes. Methods such as "Cinquain" , "Reverse Test" and "Wheel of Thought" can be used for lesson reviews, while "Insert" , "Pinboard" , "Step by Step" and "Boomerang" can be applied when explaining new topics. For reinforcement, graphic organizers such as the "Venn Diagram" , "Fishbone," "Why?" , "How?", "Concept Table" and "Lotus Flower" can be employed. Additionally, methods like "Concept Analysis" , "T-Chart" , "Summary" , "Sunflower" and "Ferris Wheel" contribute to effective learning. For assigning homework, methods such as "FSMU" , "Cluster " and "BBB" can be used to enhance lesson effectiveness and boost students' knowledge.

In native language lessons, interactive methods such as "Yes… No" , "Find the Owner of the Definition" , "Who Am I?" and "Domino" can be incorporated. During games, students feel more at ease and eager to demonstrate their knowledge, fostering confidence and determination. They learn to engage in discussions and justify their opinions. The choice of methods should consider students' age and proficiency level since the psychological characteristics of elementary students differ significantly from those of older students. Engaging young learners requires effective use of modern pedagogical technologies, including visual aids and interactive games, making lessons more engaging and easier to comprehend.

Education is a collaborative process between teachers and students, facilitating personal development, education, and upbringing. Teachers impart their knowledge, skills, and competencies to students through lessons, and students internalize and apply them effectively.

"Which One is Extra?" Method

This method is particularly valuable for developing students' logical thinking skills. The following steps are followed:

- Identifying key concepts related to the topic being studied.
- Creating a set of five (or six) concepts, where one is unrelated to the topic.
- Assigning students the task of identifying and eliminating the unrelated concept.
- Encouraging students to justify their choices and explain the relationships among the remaining concepts.

This method promotes analytical thinking and helps students recognize key concepts in a subject. It can be used individually, in groups, or as a whole-class activity to assess

comprehension and reinforce learning. For example, in the 1st-grade Natural Science textbook, topics such as "Types of Transport," "What Happens in Autumn?", "Types of Containers," and "What's in the Classroom?" can be reinforced using this method, where students must identify the concept that does not belong.

"Sunflower" Method

This method is an engaging and visual technique that ensures students' active participation in learning. Sunflower-like symbolic structures attract students' attention and make complex mathematical problems more engaging and easier to understand.

- Students present their answers or solutions in the form of sunflower petals.
- This method is particularly useful for solving mathematical problems, especially those involving geometric shapes or fractions.
- Each group member works on a separate petal, and the results are compiled in the sunflower's center.

Using the **"Sunflower"** method helps students develop analytical and logical thinking skills while encouraging teamwork.

"Video Puzzle" Method

Modern education increasingly incorporates various digital resources, such as computers, television, radio, copiers, slides, videos, and audio recordings. Teachers must strategically integrate these tools into lessons. The "Video Puzzle" method involves the following steps:

- Showing a series of video clips without explanations.
- Asking students to describe the events depicted in each clip.
- Encouraging students to take notes and answer questions based on the videos.

This method can be used to introduce and reinforce topics in various subjects. For example, in 2nd grade, it can be used to test students' knowledge of vowels and consonants. By displaying images corresponding to vowel sounds, students can identify objects and write their names in their notebooks, reinforcing memory and expanding vocabulary.

By following these principles, lesson effectiveness increases, and modern technologies enhance the quality of education. Teachers should carefully plan and determine which methods and techniques to use in each lesson. Developing reading skills and continuously improving them is crucial for meeting curriculum requirements.

CONCLUSION

The use of interactive and modern teaching methods in elementary school is fundamental to organizing effective learning processes. Incorporating modern information and communication technologies encourages students to think independently, engage in creative inquiry, and apply their learning to real-life situations. It also enhances their interest in lessons and provides access to contemporary educational programs. Teachers who effectively utilize these methods can significantly improve the quality of education. The use of multimedia technologies in every lesson fosters independent and creative thinking. Ultimately, integrating interactive and modern methods, along with information and communication technologies, in elementary education promotes innovative and critical thinking among students, enhancing lesson quality and effectiveness.

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