

METHODS OF DEVELOPING CREATIVITY IN STUDENTS

*General Secondary School No. 7**Under the Namangan Region,**Chortoq District Department of Public Education**Rahimjanova Muqaddas Dilmurod qizi***Abstract**

This article explores the pedagogical approaches and effective methods for developing creativity in students. Creativity is one of the essential skills in modern education, shaping students' problem-solving abilities, imagination, and innovation. The study highlights various psychological and pedagogical perspectives on creativity, emphasizing the role of teachers in fostering a creative learning environment. The article also presents the views of Uzbek and international scholars on the development of creative potential in the learning process.

Keywords:

Creativity, education, innovation, student-centered learning, critical thinking, pedagogical methods, Uzbekistan.

Introduction

In the 21st century, creativity is recognized as a key component of education and an important factor in personal and social development. The modern educational system aims not only to transfer knowledge but also to cultivate independent and original thinkers capable of adapting to rapidly changing global conditions. According to John Dewey (1938), education should focus on experience-based learning where creativity grows through problem-solving and active participation. Similarly, Lev Vygotsky (1978) emphasized that creativity is a product of social interaction and cognitive development.

In Uzbekistan, educational reforms also prioritize the development of creative abilities in students. The "Uzbekistan 2030 Development Strategy" emphasizes creativity and innovation as central elements of the educational process.

Main Part

1. The Nature of Creativity in Education

Creativity in education refers to the ability to produce new and valuable ideas, approaches, and solutions. Howard Gardner (1983) noted that creativity depends on multiple intelligences — linguistic, spatial, interpersonal, and intrapersonal. In the classroom, creativity helps learners engage deeply with content, develop curiosity, and strengthen motivation.

Uzbek scholar A. Abduqodirov (2019) defines creativity as “the student’s ability to combine knowledge and imagination in order to produce an innovative idea or product.” He emphasizes that creative learning activities should be built around open-ended tasks and real-life problem-solving.

2. Pedagogical Methods for Developing Creativity

a) Project-Based Learning (PBL).

According to Torrance (1974), project-based learning develops fluency and originality of thought. In Uzbekistan, Sh. R. Tursunov (2020) found that PBL helps students apply theoretical knowledge in creative contexts, encouraging teamwork and leadership.

b) Brainstorming and Creative Thinking Techniques.

Brainstorming encourages students to generate multiple ideas without immediate evaluation. Alex Osborn (1953) suggested that divergent thinking should be practiced in every subject. O. Yo‘ldoshev (2021) notes that brainstorming fosters flexibility in thinking among Uzbek students.

c) Art and Cross-Disciplinary Integration.

Integrating art, music, and literature into science or language subjects enhances creative thinking. E. Paul Torrance (1965) demonstrated that artistic activities boost imagination and problem-solving capacity. In Uzbek schools, M. Karimova (2022) highlights the importance of integrating national culture and art in developing students’ creative identity.

d) Digital Tools and Innovation.

Modern technologies, such as interactive platforms, digital storytelling, and simulation games, can significantly enhance creative engagement. The Ministry of Preschool and School Education of Uzbekistan encourages teachers to use ICT-based tasks that develop creative and critical thinking.

3. The Role of Teachers

Teachers are the key agents in fostering creativity. Carl Rogers (1969) emphasized that a supportive and open classroom climate is essential for creative growth. Uzbek educators like N. Jo‘raeva (2020) point out that teachers should act as facilitators, not controllers, allowing students freedom to express and explore their ideas.

Conclusion

Creativity is an integral part of modern education that prepares students for the challenges of the 21st century. Effective pedagogical methods — such as project-based learning, brainstorming, interdisciplinary integration, and digital tools — play a crucial role in developing students’ creative potential. Both international and Uzbek scholars agree that fostering creativity requires supportive environments, flexible curricula, and teacher innovation. Developing creativity in students is not only a pedagogical task but a national priority for sustainable progress and global competitiveness.

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