

THE ROLE OF VISUAL ARTS IN DEVELOPING STUDENTS' CREATIVE ABILITIES

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Abstract: This article elaborates on the practical role and tasks of visual arts in enhancing students' creative abilities.

Key words: creativity, artist, ability, creative activity, imagination, image, visual art, knowledge, artistic talent, aesthetic education, innovation, imaginative perception.

Visual arts classes play a crucial role in shaping students' spiritual worldview and forming their abstract beliefs. They cultivate thinking skills, creativity, visual memory, imaginative perception, artistic talent, and aesthetic sensibility. Each type of visual arts class taught in schools (such as drawing based on observation, decorative drawing, thematic drawing, and discussions about visual arts) contributes to enhancing students' creative abilities and shaping their worldview, thereby making individuals more well-rounded. Active creative activities during the educational process develop a range of virtues in students, thus positively influencing their character. Practical activities demonstrate that to shape the inner world of students, it is necessary to choose effective techniques and methods to promote active creative activity, which will foster resilience and stimulate creative thinking. Developing students' creative abilities requires fostering their confidence in their capabilities and nurturing their problem-solving skills.

Creativity is the activity of generating new material and spiritual benefits. It involves active participation of an individual's thinking, memory, imagination, attention, and willpower, revealing their entire knowledge, experience, and aspirations. Developing a person's creative ability starts from an early age, when under the guidance of adults, various types of activities, including visual arts, begin to be cultivated. Harnessing creativity through visual arts opens up great opportunities.

Teaching children to appreciate beauty both in life and in art, and teaching them to create it, enriches their inner world with such essential qualities that without them, becoming a complete person is impossible. Developing creative abilities in children is one of the important stages of their upbringing, and visual arts play a vital role in this process. One of the main tasks of visual arts is to provide students with aesthetic, especially artistic, education. Aesthetic education nurtures students' ability to fully understand the beauty in life, nature, art, and society. Beauty influences individuals' minds, hearts, and aspirations, shaping their spiritual worldview. The role of aesthetics in individuals' creative activities is extremely significant. Being aesthetically inclined in life encourages perseverance in work and turns effort into joy and a source of spiritual pleasure. Thus, aesthetic and artistic education go hand in hand.

"Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up?" - Pablo Picasso.

Picasso's famous quote highlights the importance of the contemporary world's attitude towards visual arts. Unfortunately, our education system often undervalues visual arts. In recent years, this situation has worsened due to the tendency to prioritize quantifiable aspects of

education. It is clear that engaging with visual arts is essential for the holistic development of students. Understanding the importance of visual arts is at the forefront of educational reform.

Undoubtedly, visual arts are a significant field that contributes to the all-round development of students. Visual arts classes help to discover students' hidden potentials and teach necessary skills for life. Visual arts teach us the following:

- Exchange of ideas and opinions;
- Development of imagination, artistic, and creative abilities;
- Development of independent thinking;
- Analysis, evaluation, and criticism skills;
- Cultivation of meditative and mental well-being.

For the visual arts teacher, working with young artists of various ages serves as a creative laboratory that helps in gaining experience through theoretical knowledge and various methods, facilitating discovery, creation, and innovation. In this process, students rise through all stages of artistic creation: understanding, research, collaboration, innovation, experimentation, creation, analysis, and criticism.

Once all these stages are completed, students can create personal, unique, and original works. During this process, visual arts stimulate students' curiosity, communication skills, problem-solving abilities, innovation, and creativity. Such activities enhance their verbal expression, analysis, appreciation, and criticism skills, as well as concentration, patience, and teamwork. Moreover, visual arts must not forget to serve mental well-being! Therefore, it can be seen that visual arts play a useful role in the holistic development and progress of students.

Traditional style visual arts classes involve lecturing in class, drawing on the board, and creating sketches in the form of artistic expression. This method was particularly effective for students who are more inclined towards art and those who excelled in visual arts. It was a one-way communication method that narrowed the scope for students to observe, create ideas, exercise critical thinking, and express themselves.

Nowadays, educators worldwide are realizing the necessity to teach with new methods in the visual era. Guiding towards artistic education in a more systematic manner, facilitating interactive communication in modern visual art classrooms is essential.

The development of students' artistic and creative abilities plays a crucial role in their overall intellectual and personal development. For instance, selecting the right space to actively accept and visually express life events, understanding the color palette, and aesthetic sciences play a significant role. Particularly for "gifted" or exceptionally talented students, the process of developing creative abilities is faster, more qualitative, and easier. Artistic-creative processes are based on students' independent execution of tasks and creating concepts that embody artistic value. It's known that visual arts are a form of artistic creation. These artistic processes contribute significantly to the development of students' creative abilities at all stages.

Visual arts activities enhance imagination, contemplation, visual memory, emotional and aesthetic enjoyment. Enhancing students' artistic-creative abilities in visual arts activities is a testament to various types of artistic education, such as drawing, painting, sculpture, working with textiles, and other forms.

It's evident that no field solely encompasses creativity and artistry. Art emerges everywhere in human societies, with countless different manifestations and is, therefore, the primary point of social and cultural interaction. Therefore, the development of artistic creativity

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VOLUME-4, ISSUE-3

in visual arts is one of the most interesting paths, and it's also an essential topic in psychology because visual arts are often created by individuals themselves over a certain period of their lives. Visual arts serve as a mirror reflecting our understanding and contemplation and creating visual artworks is a rare skill. Understanding its importance, understanding the history of art, the array of visual expression methods, and understanding visual representations are necessary to solve the unique problem of understanding art. Since humans have had the ability to create visual images, those with special abilities in this field have always been highly respected. When thinking about creativity, one often recalls the prototypes of great creators – most often, artists.

In general, the use of numerous interrelated abilities - understanding, memory, imagination, language, spatial thinking, aesthetic sense, creativity, expression - transforms visual arts into one of our most complex activities. Naturally, the question arises: How can we see something, form an opinion about it, and understand this concept through physical manipulation by turning it into a unique and convincing visual, symbolic, or even abstract representation and teach it to students?

One of the contemporary educators, Professor R. Hasanov, gives the following definition to a school visual arts teacher, emphasizing: "To be a skilled teacher, one must possess high ethical standards, be able to hold oneself together under any circumstances, be patient, tolerant, polite, creative, hardworking, honest, virtuous, faithful, a learner, and a teacher who embodies high-quality characteristics such as an educator-artist." Indeed, today's school visual arts teacher must have a deep understanding of visual arts, be thoughtful, intelligent, well-informed, an artist, pedagogue, have a deep understanding of psychology, well-armed with visual arts methodology, and well-acquainted with the pedagogical technology of visual arts classes. Another difficult aspect is for the teacher to have a complete understanding of the students. Indeed, every individual has their own world, and, therefore, visual art requires different skills from different individuals. On top of that, it's quite challenging to identify students' unique qualities. It's necessary for teachers to carry out pedagogical and psychological diagnostics among students to understand them comprehensively. This includes factors such as the students' overall ability, their character, their interest in particular subjects, their level of imagination, thinking, and creative thinking, their activity and imagination, memory and observation skills, attention, initiative, independence, and conditions for home activities, and more.

In general, to increase students' interest in visual arts classes and to enhance the effectiveness of visual arts classes, the following series of activities should be carried out:

- firstly, to identify the pedagogical-psychological problem of identifying students' abilities unique to them concerning visual arts in general secondary education schools and to develop its specific methods through theoretical and methodological research.
- secondly, analyze and generalize scientific searches, practical pedagogical experiences in learning students' abilities, and enhance their interest in visual arts.
- thirdly, applying modern didactic principles and using examples from the legacy left by Uzbek national artists, to increase students' interest in visual arts classes.

In conclusion, visual arts classes enhance students' aesthetic perception, knowledge, feelings, and artistic-creative competencies, broaden their creative thinking, and develop their ability to express ideas.

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THE MULTIDISCIPLINARY JOURNAL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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