

FORMATION OF READING SKILL IN SCHOOL CHILDREN

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Abstract

This article investigates the reading skills among the youth who are studying at schools. Reading is a fundamental skill that serves as the gateway to knowledge and imagination. For children, developing strong reading skills is essential for academic success as it allows for easier comprehension and information retention. Beyond the mere decoding of words, reading fosters creativity, critical thinking, and a discovery of knowledge. Therefore, it's important for parents, educators, and caregivers, to nurture this skill from an early age, to empower children to become confident and proficient readers. The purpose of the article is providing the alternative solutions for the problem of teaching reading skills to the schoolchildren. In this article, the author uses some methods to identify the basic findings such descriptive and statistical methods in order to find data and gave some interesting and important foundations. This article will be interesting for all researchers who are interested in reading skills.

Keywords: reading skills, creativity, critical thinking, phonemic awareness, guided reading.

Introduction

At the modern stage of the development of civilization in our society, the question of the formation of the reading skill is still need to focus. There is an overabundance of the amount of available information in various forms, while its quality can rarely meet the needs of society as a whole and an individual in particular. Shavkat Mirziyoyev, The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, emphasized in Decision No. PD-4307 of May 3, 2019 "On additional measures to increase the effectiveness of spiritual and educational work", "Systematic organization of spiritual and educational work in our country, increasing the effectiveness of the measures implemented in this regard, raising the intellectual potential of the population, especially the youth, their thinking and worldview, strengthening their ideological immunity, with a sense of patriotism, love and loyalty to the people. Special attention is being paid to raising a well-rounded generation"[1,PD].

Mosina [2, p.212] considers the most important principle of communication and presentation of information in today's information environment. Therefore, in our opinion, it is advisable to



form young schoolchildren's reading comprehension skill with the help of various visualization tools.

According to Villaume and Brabham [3,p.672], younger students must visualize what they are reading. So they will ask more questions, draw conclusions and predictions about the text read. The ability to read is a basic one that opens doors to knowledge and creativity. Strong reading abilities are crucial for children's scholastic performance since they facilitate better understanding and memory of information.

Reading encourages creativity, critical thinking, and information acquisition in addition to word decoding. It is crucial that parents, teachers, and other caregivers foster this ability in their children from a young age in order to enable them to grow into competent and self-assured readers.

N. Ishnazarova states that it obeys the general laws of perception, and therefore singles out two stages in this process. Primary perception of the graphic image of a word and recognition of the formed image, extraction of information from the meaning of the word - which imply the formation of technical reading and reading respectively, the differences of which were discussed earlier. Also, if we talk about meaningful reading as a form of aesthetic perception, the main criterion and sign of reading, according to O.Toshmatov, is the understanding of the author's position, the moral standard of the writer and the subtext [4, p. 140].

Materials and Methods

The age at which kids learn to read can vary from child to child, as each child develops at their own pace. However, most children typically begin to develop pre-reading skills and show an interest in reading between the ages of 3 and 5. However, children can fall behind in the development of their reading skills if they are not encouraged. This can result in these children struggling throughout their educational journey. Therefore, it can be useful to keep an eye on your child's development. In this case, parents can expect certain skills to form at certain ages.

- **Ages 3–4:** children should start to recognise letters and may be able to identify some letters of the alphabet, particularly those in their own name. They'll also start to understand that text conveys meaning and will often pretend to read at this stage.
- **Ages 4–5:** children will progress to understanding the connection between letters and sounds. This is known as phonemic awareness. They may start to sound out simple words and recognise basic sight words. At this age, formal reading instruction can begin.
- **Ages 6–7:** around this time children should have acquired enough foundational reading skills to read simple books independently. However, it's important to remember that the timeline for reading development can vary significantly. Some children may learn to read even earlier than typically expected, while others may take a little bit longer to become proficient readers.

Foundational reading skills can be described as basic knowledge and abilities that are required to foster successful reading. There are a few foundational reading skills of which parents should be aware, as a child's proficiency in these skills determines whether or not they'll successfully



be able to read fluently and comprehend what they are reading. These foundational reading skills consist of the following[5, p. 11].

- **Phonemic awareness:** this refers to the ability to identify and manipulate individual sounds (phonemes) in spoken words. Children with strong phonemic awareness can recognise and manipulate sounds like blending individual sounds to form words. For example, a child will be able to identify that the three letters c-a-t form the word 'cat'. They'll also typically be able to segment words into individual sounds. For example, they'll be able to look at the word 'sun' and segment it into the letters s-u-n. This critical skill lays the groundwork for understanding the alphabetic principle[6].
- **Alphabetic principle:** this principle refers to the understanding that letters represent sounds, and these sounds combine to form words. Therefore, in order to grasp the alphabetic principle, children should learn the names of letters, their corresponding sounds, and how to map those sounds to written letters.
- **Phonics:** this involves connecting the sounds of spoken language to the letters of written language. It's the relationship between sounds (phonemes) and their corresponding letters or letter combinations (graphemes). By learning phonics, children can decode unfamiliar words and read them accurately.
- **Print awareness:** this refers to an understanding of how print works, such as recognising that text is read from left to right, understanding the difference between letters and words, and recognising punctuation marks.
- **Vocabulary:** a rich vocabulary is essential for comprehension and communication. Children need to learn the meanings of words to understand what they read and express themselves effectively. Vocabulary development can be supported through exposure to a wide range of books, conversations, and word-learning activities.
- **Sight words:** also known as high-frequency words, these are words that appear frequently in texts and don't always follow regular phonics rules. Therefore, it's important for children to memorise these words by sight as this will increase their reading fluency and speed.
- **Fluency:** this refers to the ability to read text accurately, quickly, and with expression. As children age and read more frequently, they'll become more fluent in their reading ability. You'll know that your child is a fluent reader once they can recognise words automatically, which allows them to focus on comprehension rather than struggling to decode each word.
- **Comprehension:** this is the ability to understand the meaning of the text. It involves actively engaging with the content, making connections, inferring, predicting, and summarising. Strong comprehension skills are vital for higher-level thinking, critical analysis, and information retention[7].



Discussion and Results

Guided reading is an instructional approach often used by teachers to support small groups of students as they develop their reading skills. In a guided reading activity, a teacher works with a small group of students who have similar reading abilities and provides personalised support and instruction to help them improve their reading skills. This approach allows teachers to address the specific needs of each student, providing them with the appropriate level of challenge and support to foster their reading development.

Parents can also easily engage in guided reading activities at home. All you have to do is select a book that is of an appropriate difficulty level. You can then explain to your child that you'll be reading with the purpose of having a discussion about the passage or chapter after they have read it.

Your child will then read the selected passage or section aloud. Once completed, you can discuss what they read, what this means to them, and what they have learnt. When performing this reading activity, try to resist helping your child each time they pause or struggle with a word. Let them first attempt to read successfully and step in to help after they have tried to problem-solve themselves. It can be beneficial to make use of reading logs when taking part in guided reading activities.

Kids learn to read books through a gradual process of developing the various foundational reading skills mentioned previously. Therefore, as they gradually improve upon their foundational reading skills they'll begin to read more fluently and build up stamina. This will slowly progress to a point where they are able to read an entire page, then a chapter, and finally a book.

It's important to note that the process of learning to read books is not linear, and children may progress through the foundational reading skills at different rates. Some may become early readers, while others may take more time. The key is to provide a supportive and nurturing environment, offer a variety of reading materials, and celebrate each child's progress, no matter how small. With patience, encouragement, and consistent practice, kids will become proficient and confident readers.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the goal should not only be to teach a child how to read but to also foster a love for reading. Once a child enjoys reading, they'll engage in the activity more frequently, which will naturally increase their reading skills and ultimately make it easier for them to study and absorb information.

Start reading aloud to your child from an early age. Choose age-appropriate books with engaging stories and colourful illustrations. Reading together creates a positive and enjoyable bonding experience, and it exposes children to the joy of storytelling.

It can also be useful to establish a daily reading routine, even if it's just for a short time before bedtime. Consistency helps children develop a reading habit and shows them that reading is a valued activity.



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