

**THE ROLE OF THE TEACHER IN DEVELOPING COMMUNICATION SKILLS IN
PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS**

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Abstract: This article explores the issue of developing communication skills in primary school students. In particular, it discusses how the teacher uses interactive methods, group activities, role-playing, and communicative tasks to encourage verbal activity. The study analyzes ways to enhance students' oral and written speech, listening abilities, and culture of exchanging ideas to support their personal development.

Keywords: communication skills, primary education, oral speech, teacher, interactive methods, role-playing, group work.

Primary education is a critical stage in the formation of a child's personality. At this age, not only academic knowledge but also vital skills such as interpersonal communication, socialization, and speech culture must be developed. Communication skills refer to a child's ability to establish effective interaction with others, express their thoughts, listen to others, and adapt to social contexts.

Unfortunately, in some cases, the classroom process becomes a teacher-centered monologue, where students remain passive listeners. This approach limits communication activity. Therefore, it is essential to organize lessons in a way that engages students as active conversationalists, participants in discussions, and collaborators.

The teacher's main tasks:

1. Creating an environment for free expression. Students should feel safe to answer questions without fear of making mistakes and be encouraged to express their thoughts freely. This is the foundation of positive communication.
2. Developing oral and written speech. Activities such as storytelling, giving verbal explanations, writing texts, and preparing reports help students develop coherent expression skills.
3. Encouraging discussions and question-answer activities. Providing opportunities to ask questions, share opinions, and engage in discussions during each lesson helps improve students' verbal skills.
4. Using role-playing and dramatization. Performing short scenes based on a specific script enhances students' emotional expression, communication, and speech behavior.
5. Organizing group tasks. Group work allows students to share ideas, agree on solutions, and explain their opinions to each other, creating a natural communicative environment.
6. Conducting communicative exercises. Tasks such as "Interviewing," "Question Chain," and "What Do You Think?" teach students friendly and effective communication.

Pedagogical strategies:

- The teacher should ask open and analytical questions.
- Continuously expand students' vocabulary with enriching words and expressions.
- Evaluate not only the correctness of answers but also the clarity of expression and reasoning ability.

Students' communication activity largely depends on how they feel in class. The teacher's warm attitude, a friendly environment, and mutual respect among students help develop a culture of communication. Therefore, the teacher must ensure emotional stability in the classroom.

Observations and results show that students actively engaged in communication tend to:

- Express ideas coherently;
- Listen to and understand others' opinions;
- Ask clear and meaningful questions;
- Participate confidently in speech-related activities;
- Demonstrate strong group work skills.

Developing communication skills in primary education is a foundation for the student's success throughout their academic journey and future life. When the teacher uses methods that encourage communication, students learn to express themselves, listen, understand, and respect others. This, in turn, improves lesson quality and fosters student confidence and creativity.

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