



THE ROLE OF RUSSIAN FOLKLORE IN THE EDUCATION OF PRESCHOOL CHILDREN

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Abstract: This article discusses the educational role of Russian folklore in the development of preschool children. It analyzes various folklore forms—fairy tales, rhymes, riddles, and songs—and how they influence early language acquisition, imagination, and moral formation. The article also offers methods for integrating folklore into the classroom through storytelling, play, and creative activities.

Keywords : Russian folklore, preschool education, fairy tales, language development, moral education.

INTRODUCTION

Russian folklore has long served as a cultural foundation for generations, transmitting moral values, traditions, and linguistic richness through oral and written forms. In the context of early childhood education, folklore plays a pivotal role in shaping the emotional, intellectual, and social development of preschool children. This paper explores the use of Russian folklore as a pedagogical tool in preschool settings, examining how traditional tales, rhymes, and songs support early learning and cultural identity formation.

2. The Pedagogical Value of Folklore

Folklore contributes significantly to a child's development by offering moral lessons, emotional understanding, and imaginative exploration. Fairy tales often present the battle between good and evil, teaching children empathy, bravery, and justice. Rhymes and proverbs promote linguistic development and memory. Russian folklore is rich in didactic content, often embedding cultural norms and values that aid the socialization of young learners.

3. Types of Russian Folklore Used in Preschool Education

The main categories of folklore commonly introduced in preschool education include:

- **Fairy tales (сказки)** – such as “Kolobok” or “Teremok,” which emphasize logic, repetition, and cause-effect.
- **Nursery rhymes and poteshki (потешки)** – used to develop rhythm, speech, and listening skills.
- **Riddles (загадки)** – to stimulate cognitive development and imagination.
- **Folk songs and lullabies** – which enhance emotional intelligence, musical awareness, and soothing rituals.

4. Methods of Integrating Folklore in the Preschool Classroom

Folklore is best taught through interactive and engaging methods. Educators often use storytelling sessions, puppet shows, dramatizations, and folk games to make learning

participatory. Visual arts and music are incorporated by having children draw fairy tale scenes or learn folk melodies. These methods foster creativity and cultural awareness, while also improving communication skills.

Teachers play a central role by selecting appropriate folklore materials, ensuring age relevance, and guiding discussion on the morals and meanings within stories. Storytelling not only enhances literacy but also builds emotional bonding between children and their cultural heritage.

CONCLUSION

Russian folklore is a valuable educational resource that nurtures imagination, reinforces moral values, and builds linguistic and cultural competencies in preschool-aged children. By integrating folklore into daily lessons, teachers create enriching and meaningful learning environments. The continued use of traditional folk literature in early education is essential for preserving cultural identity and fostering holistic child development.

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