HSR (LONDON),
HOUGHTON STREET REVIEW JOURNAL
ISSN: 2058-5519|Impact factor-15.9
http://houghtonstreetreview.com/index.php/hsr

The role of national holidays in forming a spirit of patriotism in children.

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doi:https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.24147143

Abstract. This article examines the educational significance of national holidays in the formation of patriotic feelings in preschool children and their role in the educational process. The issues of forming love for the Motherland, respect for national values, interest in the historical heritage, customs and traditions of the people through national holidays are analyzed. Also, effective pedagogical methods and techniques for organizing festive events, taking into account the age characteristics of 5-6-year-old children, are recommended.

Keywords: patriotism, national holidays, preschool education, national values, spiritual education, national traditions, pedagogical technology, educational activities, child development.

Today, educating the younger generation in the spirit of respect for national and universal values is one of the urgent pedagogical tasks. It is especially important to start the process of forming in children a sense of love for the Motherland, an understanding of national identity, respect for the history, culture and traditions of their people from preschool age. The preschool period is characterized by the child's active study of the environment, imitation, the formation of emotional relationships and the development of initial social perceptions. Therefore, it is during this period that the organization of patriotic education through national holidays, customs and traditions has great pedagogical potential.

As the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev noted, in today's era of globalization, "Educating our youth in the spirit of patriotism and protecting them from harmful influences is a crucial task for us." In implementing this task, our national holidays are not just a celebration, but a high spiritual and educational tool that forms feelings of patriotism, national pride and devotion to the heritage of our ancestors in the hearts of children. It is through national holidays that the image of the Motherland, national values and ideas of independence take firm root in the minds of the younger generation.

Such holidays of the Uzbek people as Navruz, Independence Day, Constitution Day, and Day of Memory and Honor are an important educational tool in introducing children to national values.

In particular, through the holiday of Navruz, children can develop feelings of love for nature, renewal, kindness, friendship, solidarity and humanity. Sumalak walks, national games, folk songs and dances organized on the occasion of the holiday increase children's interest in national culture.

Through the Independence Day, children form initial ideas about the Motherland, its symbols, the nature of the motherland, its cities and the life of its people. In this regard, rather than giving children complex political concepts, it is appropriate to convey concepts such as pride in one's country, appreciation of its beautiful nature and peaceful life through simple examples.

The Day of Remembrance and Appreciation allows children to cultivate such qualities as respect for adults, humanity, kindness, appreciation of peace and respect for the memory of generations.

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When using national holidays in preschool educational organizations, it is advisable to use the following methods:

The "We Feel the Holiday" method. This method instills respect for national symbols in children through an emotional-aesthetic approach. Therefore, with the help of national music, songs, dances and stage performances, a positive attitude towards the holiday is formed in children.

The "I am also a participant" method. In this method, a sense of involvement and responsibility is formed in children through a practical-active approach. In this method, children participate in holiday events not only as spectators, but also as active participants.

These methods should be organized in accordance with the age characteristics of children, interesting and focused on practical activities.

In conclusion, national holidays are one of the important pedagogical tools for forming a patriotic spirit in preschool children. Through them, children become acquainted with the history, culture, traditions and national values of their people in a practical and emotional way.

As the Head of our state noted, protecting the younger generation from harmful ideas and forming patriotism in them is a crucial task of today. Interactive methods such as “We feel the holiday” and “I am also a participant” used during the holidays turn children from passive observers into active participants. Systematic use of the educational opportunities of national holidays serves to form a solid foundation in the hearts of the growing generation of national pride, loyalty to historical memory and a sense of responsibility for the fate of the Motherland.

National holidays create the basis for the development of such qualities as love for the Motherland, awareness of national identity, humanity, kindness, and respect for national heritage in preschool children. In general, it is necessary to organize national holidays in preschool educational organizations not only as a festive event, but also as a holistic pedagogical tool that serves the spiritual and moral development of the child.

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ISSN: 2058-5519|Impact factor-15.9
http://houghtonstreetreview.com/index.php/hsr

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