



Journal Website:  
<https://theusajournals.com/index.php/ijp>

Copyright: Original content from this work may be used under the terms of the creative commons attributes 4.0 licence.

## THE EDUCATIVE FUNCTION OF INNOVATIVE TOYS IN THE PSYCHOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT OF PRESCHOOL CHILDREN

**Submission Date:** December 03, 2024, **Accepted Date:** December 08, 2024,

**Published Date:** December 13, 2024

**Crossref doi:** <https://doi.org/10.37547/ijp/Volume04Issue12-13>

**Sitora ASATULLAYEVA Dilmurodovna**

Master's Student at Chirchik State Pedagogical University, Uzbekistan

**ORCID:** <https://orcid.org/0009-0007-0582-5000>

### ABSTRACT

This article analyzes the educational function of innovative toys that directly influence the psychology of preschool children, as well as the criteria for developing creative abilities in children.

### KEYWORDS

Preschool age, family environment, child upbringing, innovative toys.

### INTRODUCTION

Both local and international psychological-pedagogical studies recognize the unique characteristics and significance of preschool childhood as a distinctive period in human life. This stage is also considered an immediate continuation of early childhood, characterized by general sensitivity, which should not hinder the development of ontogenetic potential. It is a time when children assimilate the social framework of human relationships through communication with

close adults, as well as through play and real interactions with peers. The developmental phase from ages 3 to 7 is one of the most critical periods in the growth of preschool children. During this time, the foundation of an individual's personality is laid, encompassing the development of their psyche, memory, thinking, and even self-esteem. For this reason, it is essential for parents to understand the

processes occurring in their child's body during this period and to help maximize their potential.

Preschool childhood begins with what is referred to as the "three-year crisis." Typically, this is a challenging time for parents: children become stubborn, disobedient, contrary, and act in opposition to instructions. However, parents should not despair, as this is a natural stage of development. It allows children to perceive themselves as separate beings from their parents and to learn to make independent decisions. Patience is the key quality that parents must develop.

### Main Part

In the years that follow, children begin to explore the world beyond the family and gain self-confidence. Their frequent questions like "Why?" and statements like "I can do it myself" are manifestations of curiosity and initiative. Demonstrating patience is worthwhile, as it allows children to explore the surrounding world and define their boundaries.

During the preschool years, a child's entire mental life and relationship with the world around them are formed. The development of internal mental life and self-regulation is associated with several new formations in the psyche and consciousness of preschool children. Notably, during this period, children's cognitive processes evolve. Their thinking progresses from visual-actional thinking (typical of infancy) to visual-imaginary thinking. This enables them to establish connections between objects and their properties. Thus, the formation of an individual as a person begins in early childhood. As noted, children actively integrate into the cultural world of humanity and adopt its values. During this period, children

acquire fundamental socio-cultural experiences, their personality begins to take shape, and individuality emerges. At this critical stage of life, the recommendation of innovative toys with an educative function, suitable for the child's age, has a direct impact on their development as well-rounded individuals. This, in turn, enhances interest in preschool education as an effective tool for nurturing and developing young children. It is important to emphasize that, in the modern world, both preschool educators and parents must pay attention to the didactic significance of innovative toys in fostering children's psychological development and intellectual abilities. These toys not only increase children's interest but also help develop skills such as thinking, problem-solving, and creative approaches. Therefore, the educative function of innovative toys supports children in acquiring new knowledge, broadening their thinking, and developing logical reasoning abilities.

### RESULTS

Interactive and technologically advanced toys, in particular, enable children to explore various fields of knowledge and acquire practical skills. Additionally, such toys contribute to the development of communication skills, facilitate the process of social adaptation, and strengthen teamwork abilities. For these reasons, parents and educators must prioritize the educational value of innovative toys when selecting them, as this serves as an essential foundation for shaping a competent workforce in the future. The educative functions of innovative toys help children acquire new knowledge and skills. These toys play a crucial role in enhancing children's intellectual, creative, and psychological capabilities. By fulfilling their educative and didactic functions, innovative toys facilitate the following aspects in preschool children:

- Development of critical and logical thinking;
- A more engaging and effective learning process for exact sciences;
- Formation of the ability to understand the environment and acquire new knowledge;
- Opportunities to develop teamwork, communication, and social skills.

Notably, in preschools, teams of educators and psychologists implement modern teaching concepts through innovative toys with educative functions. This approach stimulates children's minds and motivates them to acquire new knowledge. Therefore, special attention should be paid to the educational value of such toys when selecting them. Research shows that children with only four toys are more creative than those with sixteen. "Fewer toys mean fewer distractions," says Denaye Barahona, an American scholar and author of Simple Happy Parenting. Indeed, when children have fewer toys, they tend to explore the available ones with greater interest and creativity. Often, children strive to invent new uses for their toys or repurpose them for different activities. This process significantly aids in developing their imagination.

Barahona's research also reveals that having too many toys can overwhelm children and hinder their ability to focus on a single task. Parents are advised to carefully select innovative toys for their children, ensuring that these toys facilitate development through their educative functions.

According to the results of experimental research, having an excess of toys can hinder the full development of children's imagination. Healthcare professionals Strick and Schubert conducted an

experiment in which they removed toys from a kindergarten for three months. In the initial stages of the experiment, the children experienced boredom. However, they soon began inventing their own games.

American writer Joshua Becker, in his article about why fewer toys benefit children, writes: "Toys are not just toys. They teach our children about the world and themselves." According to Becker, having fewer toys fosters children's creativity, helps them focus better, and improves their interpersonal relationships. With fewer toys, children are more likely to use their imaginations, which enhances their logical thinking and problem-solving skills. Additionally, fewer toys encourage children to value and take better care of the items they already have.

Denaye Barahona, the author of Simple Happy Parenting, addresses the importance of purposefully engaging a generation captivated by gadgets with innovative toys. She writes:

"When I became a mother, I was ready to give my baby everything. All the toys, all the love—it was all for him. The motto 'more is better' was nothing new to me. I entered motherhood with a lifelong history of clutter—both physical and emotional. However, when I gave birth to my first child, I was in the process of completing my Ph.D. in Child Development. What amazed me was that there was no evidence in my research to support the idea that buying more toys was actually beneficial for our children. In fact, fewer toys bring far greater benefits to our children than you might imagine.

Over the past ten years, I have transformed thousands of families into believers in the benefits of fewer toys: Saying 'no' to new toys for our children doesn't make

us bad parents. We teach our children that everything that enters our home must eventually leave it. Did you know that most plastic toys can take up to 500 years to decompose, which harms the environment? Let's say no to things that lose their appeal quickly. We should communicate with our family members, explaining that simplicity is a core family value we aim to instill, and that we need their support. As parents, we must safeguard the family values we instill in our children, because one day, they will be tested and will need to defend these values. Our responsibility is to show them how to do this. Your children love spending time with you. But I worry that all the amazing gifts you bring for them might serve as distractions. I want them to look forward to spending time with you more than they look forward to receiving gifts."

Indeed, having fewer toys helps children better understand themselves and the world around them. An excess of toys can overstimulate and distract them, reducing their ability to think creatively and solve problems. Analyses have proven that when the number of toys is limited, children spend more time inventing new games and creating imaginary worlds, which positively impacts their cognitive and emotional development.

## CONCLUSION

Thus, to nurture children's creative potential, a purposeful limitation on the quantity of innovative toys is a crucial factor in fostering high-quality learning skills during both preschool and school years. According to research conducted by pedagogues and psychologists, in this era of unprecedented scientific and technical discoveries in every field of society, having fewer toys at home and in preschool institutions contributes to

the development of the following social skills in children:

**Improved Attention and Focus:** With fewer distractions, children learn to concentrate better on the resources available to them. They develop a deeper connection with their toys, exploring their full potential.

**Development of Effective Social Skills:** Studies show that children with fewer toys are more likely to develop interpersonal relationships with other children and adults. They learn to be better conversationalists and listeners. Establishing strong relationships early on helps ensure a happy and fulfilling life as they grow older.

**Greater Care for Possessions:** When children have an abundance of toys, they naturally care less about them. However, with fewer options, they learn to cherish and take better care of their belongings, knowing they are unique and valuable.

**Increased Interest in Reading, Writing, and Art:** Research indicates that fewer toys ignite a child's passion for books, music, and drawing. A growing love for art helps them better understand beauty, emotions, and communication in their world. Moreover, this shift keeps them away from excessive screen time and the virtual distractions of the internet.

**Sharper Problem-Solving and Creativity:** Limited access to toys pushes children to make the most of what they have, fostering ingenuity and logical thinking. They become adept at solving problems with the resources at hand.

**Reduced Conflicts Among Children:** While it may seem counterintuitive, fewer toys lead to fewer



disagreements. Contrary to the belief that more toys reduce arguments, observations show that too many toys can trigger conflicts among siblings. In families with fewer toys, children are encouraged to share, collaborate, and work together harmoniously.

**Development of Perseverance:** Having fewer toys teaches children to care for and maintain them, instilling discipline, patience, and determination. On the other hand, children with an abundance of toys tend to give up easily. If they dislike or fail to understand one toy, they quickly move on to another, missing out on the opportunity to build perseverance and problem-solving skills.

**Research indicates that children with fewer toys during their preschool years are less likely to develop selfish tendencies compared to their peers.** This is because children who always have access to everything they desire grow up believing they are entitled to get what they want at all times. Such an attitude can quickly lead to an unhealthy and undesirable lifestyle.

**1. Toys that Stimulate Cognitive Development:**

Building sets such as LEGO, Mega Bloks, and Erector Sets promote spatial reasoning, problem-solving, fine motor skills, and creativity in children.

**2. Logical Toys:** Puzzles, tangrams, and blocks help develop children's logical thinking, problem-solving abilities, memory, and attention skills.

**3. Scientific Experiment Kits:** Chemistry, physics, biology, and other science experiment kits enhance children's scientific curiosity, allowing them to learn scientific methods and conduct experiments.

**4. Digital Toys:** Educational software, interactive books, and programming kits increase children's digital literacy, interest in programming, and understanding of technology.

**5. Toys that Foster Social-Emotional Development:** Role-playing toys, dolls, animals, kitchen sets, doctor kits, and others help children internalize social roles, engage in communication, express emotions, and develop empathy. Additionally, social-emotional games such as "Who Am I?", "Find the Emotions," and "Interpersonal Communication" help children build relationships, understand, and manage emotions.

**6. Toys that Stimulate Language and Speech Development:** Interactive sound books, books that allow for the unveiling of images, and interactive learning programs support children's language acquisition, vocabulary expansion, and speech development.

**7. Toys that Promote Motor Skills and Coordination:** Balls, bicycles, scooters, airplanes, and others improve children's motor skills and coordination, promote physical activity, and foster a healthy lifestyle.

**8. Musical Toys:** Pianos, guitars, drums, microphones, and others contribute to the development of children's musical abilities, helping them coordinate rhythm and movement.

It is important to note that the educational function of toys depends not only on the toy itself but also on how the child engages with the play process. Parents and educators should encourage children to play with toys, assist them during play, and help select games that positively impact their development.

---

## REFERENCES

1. Volobueva M.P. Pedagogical Suggestion as One of the Teaching Methods // In the World of Scientific Discoveries. 2010. No. 1-3. pp. 129-134.
2. Gabrielle A. Strouse, Angela Nyhout, Patricia A. Ganea. The Role of Book Features in Young Children's Transfer of Information from Picture Books to Real-World Contexts // Front. Psychol., 06 February, 2018.
3. <https://cyberleninka.ru/article/n/jurnal-dlya-detskogo-chteniya-v-predstavleniyah-literaturnoy-kritiki-nachala>
4. <https://www.amazon.com/stores/Denaye-Barahona/author/>



**OSCAR**  
PUBLISHING SERVICES