

THINKING SKILLS AND ITS DEVELOPMENT ON A CHILDREN

Thinking is that one asks questions to oneself and seek answers to these questions. This is helpful to use the brain effectively and to provide learning.

The main point of this process is to develop thinking skills. It starts early ages and continue through whole life of the kid. We, as an adult, have some responsibilities to develop their thinking skills by asking questions that activate their brain and provide their thinking.

How should we ask these questions? First of all, the questions should be appropriate with their ages. Then, the questions should be varied to activate different thinking skills on their brain. The basic aim of asking questions should be to arouse curiosity, to get children interested in and to create awareness.

HOW CAN WE DEVELOP OUR KIDS' THINKING SKILLS AS A PARENT?

Thinking should be an enjoyable mission that compels limits of their minds. Children enjoy using their minds while thinking as well as using their bodies in physical activities. It is important that the presented information is appropriate with their ages; and it should be presented appealingly. The materials and activities should not be presented as an obligation. It should be made enjoyable as a game.

As parents in our age, we show extreme protective attitudes, try to solve problems without allowing children to think, or even seek solutions before the child to prevent problems. It is important to support their development in everyday life to give them the opportunity to experience any situation that is appropriate for their age. The opportunity to find solutions to the problems they face in natural phenomena and situations and to give them the opportunity to gain new experiences are effective methods for the development of children.

As different activities run different parts of the brain, it is important to diversify the activities we offer to our children. Instead of going to the theater every weekend, activities such as cinema, museums, trips and playgrounds will be much more developer. Especially, it is seen that the activities based on interaction have strengthened the cognitive development of the child. In a study, brain measurements were made of people who had different activities. According to these measurements, while a small part of our brain is active while watching television, it is determined that a larger part of the brain is active when we read the book. And also when we read the book aloud, a larger part of the brain is active.

ENJOYED ACTIVITIES TO DEVELOP THINKING SKILLS IN CHILDREN

Conversations

Parents' chatting with their children greatly influences the kids' cognitive development. You can talk to your child about the people you know, the events you have experienced, what you see on the road, family issues, your own childhood, and the events in the school. When adults talk to their children on daily topics, children will feel much more special when they listen to their observations and thoughts.

Board Games

Children play a variety of box games that enrich their learning skills at any stage of their development. Playing games supports their planning skills, attention span, motor, social and language skills. It also strengthens analytical thinking skills. The age of the child, the skills to be supported and the areas to be supported (attention, planning, analytical thinking, memory etc.) should be taken into consideration in the selection of box games.

Reading Book

When you read book with children regularly, besides the enrichment of the vocabulary, the development of language and memory will also become faster. Also the love of reading will be gained.

Tale / Story Telling

When you tell children about the stories, their mental development will become active. This process will allow them to concentrate and create a picture of the story in their minds.

Visual Reading

You can take a series of picture and ask them to tell what happened in the stories by looking at their pictures first. By showing the cover of the story, you can ask “What do you think this story might be about?”, “Who is there in this story?” “How is the place?”, “What would be the story if you have written?” We can make the imagination come into life and produce new ideas.

Activity Books

We can support the development of skills such as attention, memory, concept knowledge, fine motor, creativity, reasoning and taking instructions when you make activity books with your children which is suitable for the age of your child.

Trips

Trips to different places allow children to experience different stimuli and experiences. Therefore it is important to take time to organize trips to museums, exhibitions, forests, parks.

FEEDING THE “INFORMATION REQUIREMENT“

In summary; each child must experience the development of thinking skills. It is not enough to make explanations to children; we need to give them the opportunity to experience, to examine, to experiment and to live. Children are born with the “need to know”, the task of parents is to approach them with love and provide an environment that supports their development. In this process, the most powerful guide of parents is their common sense.

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