

Developing Artistic Concepts for Kindergarten Children in Egypt Using Graphic Activities

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Abstract—The current work presents a program for children in Egypt. This program involved a collection of artistic activities that purposes to improve some language, artistic skills of kindergarten children. The researchers have prepared a questionnaire for the link between the target group and the content. The questionnaire has been presented to experts for adjudicating. The program was applied to a group of 30 children. Another questionnaire has been prepared by the researchers for measuring the activities' effect on the children. The second questionnaire was considered as the pre-test and post-test. Finally, after applying the activities and the questionnaire, the researchers detected a significant difference in favor of the post-test results.

Keywords—Developing, concepts, kindergarten, children, graphic activities.

I. INTRODUCTION

DEVELOPMENT is the term used to describe the changes in children physical growth, as well as her ability to learn the social, emotional, behavior, thinking and communication skills they need for life. Over the past years, researchers focused on the artistic development in children's drawings. Many of them tried to understand children's educative information, exciting point of views and new methods from young learners themselves [1], [2].

Art studies are considered a main part of regular education and consist of additional school art classes. Overall, it contains the education provided in educational facilities concerning all kind of fine arts and art studies out of artistic organizations (graphics, painting, photography, sculpture, music, dancing, visual arts, architecture, cooking etc.) Exactly, it contains the classes relevant to all aspects provided at schools (art education, music, graphic, painting and drawings, design, 3D art work) [3].

Thinking freely, being productive, being self-expressive is what people get through art education and to be able to create diverse solutions to many problems they face by preparing people's intellectual and emotional skills and by obtaining thinking and analytical skills [4], [5].

Concentrating on children's drawings draws attention to stories behind their marks done on paper [6] which connects children's drawings with meanings about what they have drawn.

Drawings and storytelling cannot be separated from each other. Both complete the expression meanings [6], [7]. This act cognizes the flexibility of children's expressions which

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appeared in their drawings as a result of comments, or drawings that came as a result of diverse comments known as a part of their expression meanings [8].

Young learners are frequent with this procedure; they draw anything, talk about it and the grown up people describe the text. The main purpose of demanding explanations of their drawings probably will be to prevent adults from translating their drawings [8]. Kids become more skillful providing the information that is needed to accomplish their mission [9].

II. METHOD

The program has been designed to be suitable for kindergarten children. It was applied to 30 preschool-aged children during 18 hours, it was divided into nine meetings; each one was about two hours long.

The program purposed to increase the skills of kindergarten children in Egypt. The researchers have designed a questionnaire for experts to determine the suitability of the proposed activities for children. They agreed that the activities are suitable and can be used to improve the kindergarten children. The program consists of nine artistic activities, which are described in detail in Tables I-IX.

Activity 1: Printing Shapes of Nature

Goal: Printing shapes of leaves.

Tools: Printing colors, natural or artificial leaves, flowers, etc.

Age: 4-6 years.

Areas of learning: Scientific development, creative printing skills.

Description: It is an exciting way of printing for children over the age of five to improve their skills by creating different painted shapes of natural leaves. In this activity, children will use a roll to spread colors all over parts of leaves and make their own print. While printing their shapes the teacher will guide them to a perfect print and will give them scientific information about each kind of leaf in our environment.

TABLE I
ACTIVITY 1: PRINTING SHAPES OF NATURE

Activity 1: printing shapes of nature
Goal:
• printing shapes of leaves
Tools :
• printing colors, natural or artificial leaves, flowers, etc.
Age:
• 4-6 years
Areas of learning:
• scientific development
• creative printing skills

Activity 2: Creating Best Logo

Goal: Creative logo design activity.

Tools: Colored paper, paint, paint brushes

Age: 5-6 years.

Areas of learning: Creative development, imaginative drawing activity.

Description: It is a creative activity that introduces children to advertisement of a product. This activity is appropriate for children over the age of five. It introduces drawing a creative logo to a specific product. In this activity, children will choose to a product to design its logo. They will draw their design on colored papers. They can as well use collage from newspapers and magazines. After completing the activity, the teacher will gather all children and discuss each one logo product and how they will advertise it in the market.

TABLE II
ACTIVITY 2: CREATING BEST LOGO

Activity 2: creative best logo
Goal:
• creative logo design activity
Tools :
• colored paper, paint, paint brushes.
Age:
• 5-6 years
Areas of learning:
• creative development
• imaginative drawing activity.

Activity 3: Creating Trees and Coloring Words of Each Season

Goal: Drawing trees.

Tools: Plain paper, pens, pencils, crayons, paints, markers, sponge, different prints of tree shapes.

Age: 4-6 years.

Areas of learning: Creative development, knowledge and understanding of the world.

Description: It is a very simple activity to introduce the four seasons of the year to young learner. In this activity, the children will divide the plain paper into four quarters and will draw the tree of each season in it. As well, the children are asked to write the season name under each tree. Children will color the trees using color paint. Also, they can use the different prints of trees shapes as a guide while they are drawing their trees. The teacher will encourage children to produce various results after being introduced to several examples selected to the activity.

TABLE III
ACTIVITY 3: CREATING TREES AND COLORING WORDS OF EACH SEASON

Activity 3: creating trees and coloring words of each season
Goal:
• Drawing trees
Tools :
• plain paper, pens, pencils, crayons, paints, markers, sponge, different prints of tree shapes..
Age:
• 5-6 years
Areas of learning:
• creative development
• knowledge and understanding of the world.

Activity 4: Creating Your Own Design

Goal: Drawing a picture.

Tools: Cardboard, foil, thick glue, shoe paper, crayons, glue stick.

Age: 5-6 years.

Areas of learning: Creative development, literacy and communication skills.

Description: This activity can be done by children starting from five years. At first, children are given a hard cardboard to draw on it their pictures. After drawing their shapes, they will use a thick tacky glue to go over the lines. This will make a high relief then let it dry where teachers will help while doing this step. Using a glue stick, they will attach the foil to the picture wrapping it over the front and to the back. Using their little fingers, they will press foil down around dry glue lines using paper towel. Furthermore, they will fill all the empty spaces with pattern using a dull pencil toward the foil. Once they have done it, they will rub over the whole picture with black shoe polish, then wait few seconds and wipe off. At the end, the teacher will gather all productions and hang them up on wall.

TABLE VI
ACTIVITY 4: CREATING YOUR OWN DESIGN

Activity 4: Creating your own design.
Goal:
• Drawing a picture.
Tools :
• cardboard, foil, thick glue, shoe paper, crayons, glue stick.
Age:
• 5-6 years
Areas of learning:
• creative development
• literacy and communication skills.

Activity 5: Bubble Wraps Prints on Fabric

Goal: Printing with colors.

Tools: White shirts, various colorful fabric paints, paint brushes.

Age: 4-6 years.

Areas of learning: Creative development, knowledge and understanding of the world, personal and social development.

Description: It is an interesting activity for children from four to six years. It can be done by young ones as well. Children are given different pieces of bubble wrap and asked to pick their favorite fabric paints. Then, they use their brushes to spread paint all over the bubble wrap. While doing this activity, the teacher asks them to print the bubble wrap all over the white shirt and to try to form shapes and pattern while printing. The teacher should also encourage them to use their tools in different ways to produce multiple textures.

Activity 6: Mono Color Abstract Paint

Goal: Creating an abstract print with only one color.

Tools: Watercolor paper, different colors, paint brushes, plastic geometric shapes.

Age: 4-6 years.

Areas of learning: Knowledge and understanding of the world, creative development.

Description: It is a simple technique to produce a mono

color abstract print, can be done by children from four to six years. Children are given water color paper and are asked to use plastic geometric shapes such as circles, squares and triangles. Children are asked to dip it into colors and print it on paper. They will have to pick only one color with all its degradation to use. While children are doing the activity, the teacher discusses Abstract Art with them. This activity will guide them to be more imaginative and creative.

TABLE V
ACTIVITY 5: BUBBLE WRAPS PRINTS ON FABRIC.

Activity 5: Bubble wraps prints on fabric.
Goal:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> printing with colorful colors..
Tools :
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> white shirts, various colorful fabric paints, paint brushes.
Age:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4-6 years
Areas of learning:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> creative development knowledge and understanding of the world.

TABLE VI
ACTIVITY 6: MONO COLOR ABSTRACT PAINT

Activity 6: Mono color abstract paint.
Goal:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> creating an abstract print with only one color.
Tools :
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> watercolor paper, different colors, paint brushes, plastic geometric shapes.
Age:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4-6 years
Areas of learning:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> knowledge and understanding of the world creative development.

Activity 7: Printing Geometric Shapes

Goal: Creating an abstract drawing using geometric paint shapes.

Tools: Painter tape, paint, paint brushes, colors, sponge, plain papers.

Age: 4-6 years.

Areas of learning: Mathematical development, creative development, language literacy/awareness about colors.

Description: It is similar to the previous one. Children are given painter tape. They create geometric shapes such as rectangle, square, triangle and lines by sticking the tape on paper to form shapes. Using paint brushes with colors to fill spaces all around shapes. Each child create this own abstract geometric shape.

TABLE VII
ACTIVITY 7: PRINTING GEOMETRIC SHAPES

Activity 7: Printing geometric shapes.
Goal:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> creating an abstract drawing using geometric paint shapes.
Tools :
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Painter tape, paint, paint brushes, colors, sponge, plain papers.
Age:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4-6 years
Areas of learning:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> mathematical development creative development language literacy/awareness about colors.

Activity 8: Paper Roll Stamps

Goal: Creating bunny shapes for Easter.

Tools: Toilet paper rolls, white paint, paper plate, color paper.

Age: 4-6 years.

Areas of learning: Knowledge and understanding of the world, language, personal and social development.

Description: It is such a simple and funny activity. In this activity, children are provided by three toilet paper rolls. They are asked to stick one to the two others to form the bunny ears. After this, children will dip the bunny stamp into the white paint, press it hand on colored paper then draw on bunny face details and add some green grass at the bottom.

TABLE VIII
ACTIVITY 8: PAPER ROLL STAMPS

Activity 8: Papers roll stamps.
Goal:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creating bunny shapes for Easter.
Tools :
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> toilet paper rolls, white paint, paper plate, color paper.
Age:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4-6 years
Areas of learning:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> knowledge and understanding of the world language personal and social development.

Activity 9: Orange, Lemon Printing

Goal: Creating a print.

Tools: Orange, lemon, colored acrylic paints, large piece of blank paper.

Age: 4-6 years.

Areas of learning: Creative development, personal and social development, hand eye coordination.

Description: It is an enjoyable activity for young children. The teacher starts by cutting a few lemons and oranges. Kids will enjoy eating these fruits. The teacher sets out paper for children. Then, they will choose their favorite colors and start printing the lemons and oranges on papers which gives them the chance to express their creativity while enhancing their hand eye coordination.

TABLE IX
ACTIVITY 9: ORANGE, LEMON PRINTING

Activity 9: orange, lemon printing.
Goal:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> creating a print.
Tools :
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> orange, lemon, colored acrylic paints, large piece of blank paper.
Age:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4-6 years
Areas of learning:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> creative development personal and social development hand eye coordination.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The researchers have prepared a questionnaire for measuring the children skills. The researchers applied the program to 30 children. Table X and Fig. 1 show a comparison of the results before and after the program.

TABLE X
THE RESULT OF APPLYING THE PROGRAM

Item	Before applying (%)	After applying (%)	Difference (%)
1 Language skill	41.91	58.46	16.55
2 Mathematical skill	45.89	88.45	42.56
3 Artistic skill	38.02	71.15	33.13

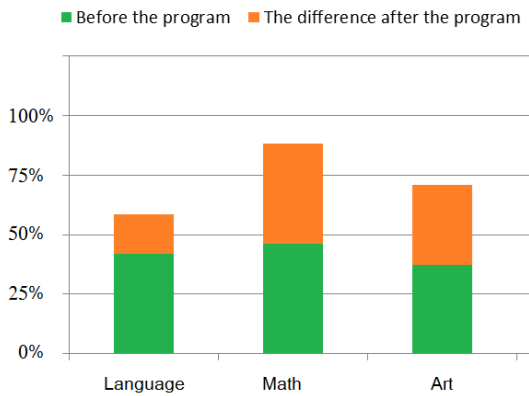


Fig. 1 The result of applying the program

Fig. 1 demonstrates that the children's skills have been increased by various degrees. The increasing in the mathematical skills of the children is much higher than their language skills, because children at this age do not have the ability to store many words. Moreover, a high disparity has been showed between the children in terms of artistic skills, but on average, by comparing the result before and after applying the program, there is a remarkable improvement.

IV. CONCLUSION

The results found that artistic activities can give children concepts of language, mathematics and can provide them some information about nature.

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