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## **FORMATION OF SOCIAL AND CIVIC COMPETENCE IN CHILDREN OF UPPER-KINDERGARTEN AGE THROUGH ARTISTIC WORD**

The older preschool age is a period of active social skill development and the formation of basic moral concepts. How can artistic literature help cultivate essential modern qualities in preschool children, such as critical thinking, tolerance toward other cultures and beliefs, and the ability to empathize? What literary works and methodologies are most effective for fostering these qualities in preschoolers?

Developing social and civic competence at the preschool level is an investment in the future, as it lays the foundation for forming a well-rounded personality capable of living in harmony with oneself and society. Artistic literature, as one of the most accessible and effective pedagogical tools, has significant potential for developing this competence in young children.

The issue of civic identity formation has been studied by classic Ukrainian scholars (V. Sukhomlynskyi, H. Skovoroda, B. Hrinchenko) and modern researchers (O. Horban, O. Staianna, S. Kurinna, and others).

The purpose of this study is to theoretically substantiate and experimentally test the effectiveness of using artistic literature as a means of fostering social and civic competence in older preschool children.

Artistic literature is a powerful tool in shaping a child's personality, particularly their social and civic competence. It helps children:

- **Explore the world around them:** Through fairy tales, poems, and stories, children learn about diverse human characters, cultures, and traditions, fostering tolerance and respect for others.
- **Develop emotional intelligence:** Literary works enable children to experience various emotions, understand their causes and consequences, and express their feelings.
- **Form moral values:** By reading about characters' actions, children internalize concepts of good and evil, justice and injustice, which shape their value system.
- **Learn to empathize:** Artistic works help children put themselves in others' shoes, understand their feelings and needs, and develop empathy.
- **Expand their worldview:** Exposure to different literary genres enriches a child's vocabulary, enhances imagination, and fosters creativity.
- **Develop a positive attitude toward reading:** Encouraging a love for books contributes to a child's ongoing intellectual growth.

### *Examples of the Functions of Artistic Literature*

- **Fairy tales:** Teach kindness, honesty, and friendship while helping children differentiate between good and evil.
- **Poetry:** Enhances language skills, memory, musicality, and a sense of rhythm.

- **Short stories:** Introduce real-life situations, helping children understand human behavior.

#### How to Use Artistic Literature to Develop Social and Civic Competence:

- **Regular reading:** Reading aloud or encouraging independent reading of literary works.

- **Discussion of texts:** Engaging children in conversations about what they read and encouraging them to express their thoughts and feelings.

- **Dramatization:** Turning stories into theatrical performances, helping children grasp deeper meanings and express themselves.

- **Creative writing:** Encouraging children to create their own poems, fairy tales, and stories.

**Conclusion.** Artistic literature is an indispensable tool in shaping future citizens. It instills essential qualities such as kindness, justice, tolerance, and respect for others and the world around them. Therefore, it is crucial to dedicate sufficient attention to reading with children and creating an environment where books are a welcomed and cherished presence.

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