



THE ROLE OF CRITICAL THINKING IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNGER STUDENTS

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Annotation

The article discusses the importance of critical thinking in younger students. The author explains what critical thinking is, ways to help a child learn a new skill.

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Critical thinking is the ability to think clearly and rationally, understanding the logical connection between ideas. Critical thinking can be described as the ability for reflective and independent thinking.

Essentially, critical thinking requires you to use your ability to reason. It's about being an active learner, not a passive receiver of information.

Critical thinkers question ideas and assumptions rather than taking them at face value. They are always eager to determine whether ideas, arguments, and conclusions represent the whole picture, and are prepared for the fact that they do not.

Critical thinkers identify, analyze, and solve problems systematically, not on the basis of intuition or instinct.

Someone with critical thinking skills can:

Understand the connections between ideas.

- Determine the importance and relevance of arguments and ideas.
- Recognize, build and evaluate arguments.
- Identify inconsistencies and errors in reasoning.
- Approach problems consistently and systematically.
- Reflect on the rationale behind your own assumptions, beliefs, and values.

In the modern world, children are surrounded by information, it comes from different sources and needs to be rethought and checked for authenticity. Thanks to critical thinking, children will be able to see inconsistencies and contradictions, they can weed out inaccurate data and separate facts from their interpretation.

Critical thinking will help children in choosing sources that they can rely on during learning, teaches them to see cause-and-effect relationships, generalize and structure information, argue their position and see weaknesses in the position of others. Critical thinking is important for children in the study of subjects and self-knowledge, in which it is necessary to be able to reason, since there is no single correct answer to the question: history, philosophy, political science, social science.



The higher the level of critical thinking, the easier it is to master the school curriculum and self-development.

Students in any area of life should be able not only to perform routine actions well, but also to make non-standard decisions, find new ways and approaches to solving problems. Pupils will learn how to competently conduct a discussion and prove their point of view. Critical thinking helps them evaluate work tasks from different angles and help them avoid errors related to inaccurate or insufficient information.

Daily life of a child

Every day a child has to make decisions independently, sometimes on the basis of incomplete or inaccurate information. These decisions concern not only study, but also health, life, personal relationships. Critical thinking allows the child to choose the best course of action, avoid serious mistakes or quickly find a way to correct them.

How to develop critical thinking in children?

The skills a child needs to develop critical thinking are varied and include observation, analysis, interpretation, reflection, evaluation, inference, explanation, problem solving, and decision making.

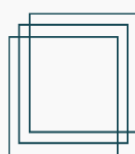
In particular, children should be able to:

- Objectively and critically think about a topic or problem.
- Identify different arguments in relation to a particular issue.
- Evaluate a point of view to determine how strong or justified it is.
- Recognize any weaknesses or negatives in evidence or arguments.
- Pay attention to what consequences may lie behind a particular statement or argument.
- Justify and support the arguments they want to make in a structured way.
- Replenish the treasury of knowledge

It is impossible to think critically without a sufficient amount of knowledge about the world around us. The more knowledge, the easier it is to compare and analyze. Before critically assessing the problem, it must be considered from all sides, to see the situation in the context of other events, to follow its development over time.

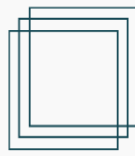
Continuously expand knowledge in a variety of areas:

- the child should read fiction and popular science literature;
— watch documentaries and lectures in the public domain on educational portals, YouTube channels of specialists in various fields;
- observe people and their behavior - this will help to understand the reason for their actions and develop a strategy for interaction in different situations;
- talking with people, asking for their opinion and experience - this will allow the child to develop or clarify his position on any issue.



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