The pedagogical approach concerning very young learners (VYL) and young learners (YL) employing visual aids.

Azizova Durdona Avazbek qizi
Xalqaro Nordik Universiteti
Chet tillar kafedrasi
Katta o'qituvchisi

https://orcid.org/0009-0006-5920-4894.

Visual materials play a crucial role in enhancing engagement and comprehension, as they cater to the developmental needs of children by making learning more interactive and enjoyable.By incorporating colorful images, videos, and hands-on activities, educators can create a stimulating environment that fosters curiosity and encourages active participation among students.This approach not only aids in retaining information but also helps children connect concepts to real-world experiences, ultimately promoting deeper understanding and retention of knowledge.

Before choosing different materials teacher should pay attention the differences of "very young lerars" vs "young learners". Very young learners are children typically aged between 3 to 5 years, who require materials that are highly visual and simple in design, often incorporating playful elements to maintain their attention.Young learners, on the other hand, usually range from 6 to 12 years old and can handle more complex materials that challenge their thinking while still being engaging and interactive. Specific feature of 3-5 years old learners are that they thrive in environments where learning is integrated with play, allowing them to explore and experiment through hands-on activities.This playful approach not only fosters creativity but also enhances their cognitive and social skills, setting a strong foundation for future learning experiences. The difficulties of teaching them often stem from their short attention spans and varying developmental stages, requiring educators to employ diverse strategies that cater to individual needs while keeping the learning atmosphere dynamic and enjoyable.Creating a balance between structured activities and free play is essential, as it helps maintain their interest while promoting self-directed learning and discovery.

In addition to the importance of visual materials tailored for different age groups, it is essential to consider how these resources can be developed and adapted to meet specific learning objectives. The process of creating effective teaching materials involves a three-step model that begins with reviewing suitable picture books, followed by selecting appropriate video content, and ultimately crafting original stories that resonate with young learners' interests . This iterative approach not only enhances educators' creativity but also ensures that the materials are relevant and engaging for their students. Moreover, as teachers assess their resources in real-time based on student feedback, they become more adept at refining their methodologies, thereby fostering an adaptive learning environment that accommodates diverse needs . Such flexibility in material development can significantly enrich the educational experience, allowing children to explore concepts through various lenses while maintaining their enthusiasm for learning.

When teaching very young learners (ages 3–6), using a variety of engaging, hands-on materials is key to keeping them interested and helping them learn effectively. Here are some materials and resources that work well for this age group:

Material Type	Examples	Benefits
Toys and Manipulatives	- Building blocks (e.g., LEGO)	- Develops motor skills, creativity, and understanding of concepts
	- Puzzles	- Enhances cognitive skills and problem-solving
	- Stacking toys	- Teaches size, shape, and coordination
Interactive Books	- Pop-up books	- Engages with visuals and storytelling
	- Touch-and-feel books	- Encourages sensory exploration and learning textures
	- Lift-the-flap books	- Promotes curiosity and discovery
Flashcards	- Picture flashcards	- Helps with vocabulary building and matching
	- Number & letter flashcards	- Reinforces early literacy and numeracy skills
Songs and Music	- Simple songs and rhymes	- Teaches concepts (numbers, colors, etc.) and encourages repetition

Material Type	Examples	Benefits
	- Musical instruments (e.g., tambourine, maracas)	- Develops rhythm, sound exploration, and coordination
Art and Craft Materials	- Crayons, markers, paints	- Enhances creativity, fine motor skills, and expression
	- Stickers and stamps	- Reinforces learning in a fun, interactive way
	- Clay or playdough	- Improves fine motor skills and sensory exploration
Visual Aids	- Charts and posters	- Reinforces concepts like alphabet, colors, days of the week
	- Flashlight/Shadow play	- Introduces light and shadow exploration
Digital Tools and Apps	- Interactive learning apps	- Teaches letters, numbers, and more through interactive play
	- Educational games on smartboards	- Engages children with interactive digital activities
Games and Activities	- Simple board games (e.g., Candy Land)	- Promotes turn-taking, counting, and colors
	- Matching games	- Develops memory and visual recognition
Nature and Outdoor Materials	- Nature walks (leaves, rocks, flowers)	- Teaches about the natural world, colors, and textures
	- Gardening	- Builds responsibility and introduces basic science concepts
Sensory Materials	- Sensory bins (rice, sand, water)	- Encourages sensory exploration and fine motor skill development
	- Water play	- Teaches cause and effect, pouring, and splashing

While teaching young learners from 6 to 12, teachers can incorporate a variety of hands-on activities that cater to different learning styles, fostering an inclusive environment that promotes creativity and critical thinking. However, there are some problems with the implementation of these methods, such as limited resources and varying levels of student engagement, which can hinder the effectiveness of experiential learning experiences. Teaching children aged 6 to 12 requires methods that engage their developing cognitive abilities and cater to diverse learning styles. Here are some effective strategies:

- **Active Learning** Encourage students to participate actively through hands-on activities, experiments, and problem-solving tasks. This approach fosters critical thinking and deeper understanding.prodigygame.com

- **Cooperative Learning** Implement group activities where students collaborate to achieve common goals. Techniques like "think-pair-share" and "jigsaw" promote teamwork and communication skills.happynumbers.com

-**Thematic Learning** Organize lessons around central themes that integrate multiple subjects. This method helps students make connections across different areas of knowledge. en.wikipedia.org

- **Play-Based Learning** Incorporate elements of play to make learning enjoyable and engaging. Activities like role-playing and educational games can enhance creativity and problem-solving skills. en.wikipedia.org

- **Explicit Instruction** Provide clear, direct teaching with structured guidance. This approach is particularly effective for introducing new concepts and skills. dailytelegraph.com.au

- **Differentiated Instruction** Tailor teaching methods to accommodate the diverse learning styles and abilities of students. This ensures that each child receives instruction suited to their needs. abilitypath.org

- **Use of Technology** Integrate educational technologies, such as interactive apps and online resources, to enhance learning experiences and engage digital natives.

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- **Formative Assessment -**Regularly assess student understanding through quizzes, discussions, and observations to inform instruction and provide timely feedback.

- **Encourage Metacognition -**Teach students to reflect on their thinking processes, helping them become more aware of how they learn and develop self-regulation skills.

Foster a Growth Mindset -Promote the belief that abilities can be developed through effort and perseverance, encouraging resilience and a positive attitude toward learning.

By implementing these strategies, educators can create a dynamic and supportive learning environment that caters to the developmental needs of children aged 6 to 12. The usage of the former methodology can help educators identify individual learning styles and tailor their approaches to meet diverse student needs, ultimately enhancing engagement and academic performance.

In conclusion, educators play a crucial role in shaping the learning experiences of their students, and by adopting these innovative strategies, they can empower children to become lifelong learners who are equipped to navigate challenges with confidence.This not only fosters a love for learning but also prepares students to thrive in an ever-changing world, where adaptability and critical thinking are essential skills.

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