

Sand Painting Teaching and Young Children's Creativity

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ABSTRACT. Sand painting is a popular and unique art form. Sand painting is easy to learn without having deep painting foundation and skills, this characteristic makes it easy for young children to accept a new education method that combines sand painting activities with young children's teaching activities. The use of sand as a painting tool allows young children to create spontaneously, allowing them to express their own world freely in the kingdom of sand, training their practical skills and creativity, and let them grow up in joys. Therefore, this article talks about the benefits of the new teaching method produced by the combination of sand painting activities and early childhood education which will not only benefit the growth of young children, but also contribute to the education in China.

KEYWORDS: Sand painting teaching, Early childhood education, Creativity

1. Introduction

With the continuous growth of society, Chinese education is also developing. The group of young children, as the protagonist of the society in the future, has received widespread attention from all levels of society. Having a good education is not a simple matter of creativity, especially in a globalized modern society. Teachers should learn to make use of rich educational resources, they should not limit the education into listening, speaking, reading and writing for young children. More importantly, they should focus on training children's creativity and let them to grow up in a creative and innovative environment. The new teaching method formed by combining sand painting and early childhood education can cultivate young children's practical skills and thinking ability.

2. Brief Introduction of Sand Painting Teaching

Sand painting is a unique art form. The creation of sand painting mainly focuses on the a painter's technique and the unique image formed by the sand and its bottom light. Through the spreading and erasing of sand, a kaleidoscopic animation is formed on the white glass backboard, it has a wonderful visual effect with the screen and music. This dynamic display of artistic performance is more vigorous than other arts^[1]. Sand painting is a art for the publics which is different from other abstract art forms. It does not require a high degree of artistic attainment to be able to "understand". Regardless of gender, age, or educational background, people can get their own opinions from watching sand paintings. This feature makes sand painting very friendly for early children teaching, even young children can simply appreciate the art of sand painting, which will trigger their interest in learning and motivate them to improve. Sand paintings give the audience a strong impact from the visual aspect through extremely concise lines and diverse colors. The changes in light and shadow, the different levels of sand, and the contrast of colors create a sense of mystery. A few changes can make a sand painting show different characteristics, which is extremely malleable. This feature allows young children to fully exert their imagination and create their own world using sand painting.

3. Respect the Pure Nature of Young Children

Compared with adults, young children are more lively and active, they love nature more. However, with the continuous development of our society, more and more children who live in the "steel forest" are more difficult to intimately contact with nature. Additionally, with the increase of national health awareness, parents do not allow children to contact unsanitary sand outside. Maintaining such a situation for a long period of time is not conducive to the development of young children's instincts, but also inhibits their emotional expression^[2]. Through sand painting teaching, teachers can show children and their parents a series of methods, such as choosing the right sand, filtering out the suitable sand from the mixed sand, and cleaning the suitable sand. In this way, parents would understand and assure that the sand used for painting is qualified and meets the hygienic standards. It can also create an environment similar to nature for young children through scenes and other means,

let them directly touch the sand, satisfy the curiosity of wanting to contact nature and the nature of loving to play, trigger their interest and enthusiasm for sand painting and let them learn through play and make progress in play.

4. Rich Imagination is the Foundation of Young Children's Creativity

Compared with adults, young children's thinking is more divergent and unrestrained and their imagination is more spontaneous and elusive. During the May 4th period, Mr. Shi Hu laid stress on "the bold assumption plus careful verification". Young children's hearts are sensitive, their original inner world can be destroyed by teachers' painless words. Therefore, when teachers teach young children to learn sand painting, no matter what kind of paintings the children paint, the teachers should not criticize the young children's paintings and judge the quality of the paintings from the perspective of adults, because these may hurt the enthusiasm of young children. The teacher should think about the meaning of the painting from the perspective of the child, observe their inner world through the painting, and feel the vitality of young children's hearts from the painting. Therefore, when teaching sand painting, teachers should learn to correctly evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of young children's paintings, guide their imagination through correct evaluation, and let them make "bold assumptions" when doing sand painting. It will help with improving young children's imagination skills, so they can create their own unique compositions.

5. Guide Young Children to Feel Beauty

The world is beautiful and life is full of beauty, such as the afterglow of the setting sun, the blue sky, the exquisite murals, the strange cornices, the smiling faces of the children, and the parents' backs, etc. They can constitute many subtle pictures. In today's fast-paced life, what people lack is not beauty, they need the eyes that discover beauty. When teaching sand painting, teachers can use the beautiful scenes they found in life as an example to teach young children to discover the beauty in life, give them the eyes to discover beauty, and let them create beautiful scenes through sand painting by using the sand in their hands. Teachers can tell young children how to create a composition through some excellent works, such as the techniques used in paintings and the ideas expressed by the authors in the paintings, so that the young children can feel the beauty and attractiveness of sand painting.

6. Conclusion

Sand painting is a cutting-edge and unique art. A new teaching method that combines sand painting activities with early childhood education can cultivate young children's artistic accomplishment and exercise their practical skills. Sand painting is also beneficial for the construction of young children's mental wellness, which can satisfy their sense of accomplishment and increase self-confidence. It is also very helpful for the character shaping of young children. The process of sand painting can develop the habit of concentration, so that children can be full of imagination and creativity.

References

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