Research on the Influence of Music Education on Children's Intellectual Development — A Case Study of Music Enlightenment Education

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Abstract: Music is an important part of human culture and a highly popular art form. It is a long-standing consensus in the education sector that music education has a profound impact on children's intellectual development. Music enlightenment education is an important component of children's music education, aiming to cultivate children's musical literacy and music appreciation skills through music enlightenment. This paper, taking music enlightenment education as an example, explores the impact of music education on children's intellectual development.

Keywords: Music Education, Children, Intellectual Development, Music Enlightenment Education

1. Introduction

Music, as a global language, its charm and influence have long been recognized and accepted by people. In recent years, with the advancement of educational concepts and the development of science and technology, the importance of music education has gradually gained widespread attention. Especially in children's education, music education is given an important task, that is, through music enlightenment. Music enlightenment education refers to a way of educating children in their early stages through music, cultivating children's interest in music, improving their music appreciation and creation abilities, and fostering their musical literacy and aesthetic abilities. The goal of music enlightenment education is to let children learn, grow, and develop in the world of music, foster their imagination, creativity, and thinking abilities, and promote their all-round development.

2. The Relationship between Music Education and Children's Intellectual Development

The connection between music education and children's intellectual development is profound and complex. The beauty of music brings not only the enjoyment of the soul but also challenges and exercises the working mechanism of the brain. Especially in children's key period of physiological and psychological development, music education can enhance their intellectual development in various ways.

2.1. Music education can enhance children's memory

Memory is an important part of intelligence and the basis of learning. The melody and rhythm in music, whether for the audience's listening or the performer's playing, all rely on memory. For instance, when we hear a familiar song, we can usually quickly remember its melody. Likewise, when we learn a new song, we need to remember its melody and rhythm. This is because the melody and rhythm in music have a unique memory pattern that penetrates the brain, making information memorization and retrieval easier. Through continuous music training, children's memory can be significantly enhanced.

2.2. Music education helps to enhance children's attention

In the world of music, the ever-changing melody and rhythm require our continuous attention and focus. This process has a positive effect on training children's attention. For example, when playing a piece of music, children need to follow the rhythm and melody of the music with full concentration; any distraction may lead to mistakes in the music. This high level of attention to detail significantly
enhances children's attention.

2.3. **Music education can enhance children's language comprehension skills**

Language and music have a profound connection. To some extent, music is like a borderless language. The melody, rhythm, and harmony in music all have their unique language characteristics. Therefore, understanding and mastering music can help children improve their language comprehension skills. For instance, children can learn new words and phrases by singing songs, which not only helps them remember new vocabulary but also enables them to understand and feel the rhythm and beat of the language [1].

In conclusion, music education positively influences children's memory, attention, and language comprehension skills. By participating in music education, children can not only enjoy the beauty of music but also enhance their intellectual development, thereby laying a solid foundation for their future learning and life.

3. **The Impact of Music Education on Children's Intellectual Development**

3.1. **Cognitive Skills**

Music education plays an important role in children's cognitive development. As early as the preschool stage, children can stimulate their perceptual and cognitive abilities through listening to and participating in music activities. Research has found that children who receive music education usually perform better in cognitive areas such as spatial perception, memory, and attention compared to children who do not receive music education.

Music can stimulate children's imagination and creativity, allowing them to explore and innovate freely in the world of music. By playing instruments, children need to concentrate on each note, which not only improves their attention but also trains their memory. At the same time, the rhythm and melody in music require children to engage in logical thinking and analysis, which helps improve their problem-solving and critical thinking abilities.

3.2. **Language Skills**

Music has a close connection with language, and research has shown that music education can significantly improve children's language abilities. The melody, rhythm, and harmony in music all have unique language characteristics. By learning and understanding these music elements, children can better understand the structure and rules of language, thereby improving their language comprehension and expression abilities.

Singing activities in music education also have a positive impact on children's language development. In singing activities, children need not only to remember lyrics but also to understand their meaning, which can help expand their vocabulary and improve language comprehension. At the same time, singing can train children's phonetic and spoken expression abilities.

3.3. **Mathematical Skills**

Music education also has a significant impact on children's mathematical abilities. The rhythm, harmony, and fractions of notes in music are closely related to mathematics. For example, the length of a quarter note is twice that of two eighth notes, which involves mathematical knowledge of proportions and fractions. By learning and understanding these music elements, children can better understand mathematical concepts and laws. [2]

3.4. **Spatial Skills**

Music education can improve children's spatial perception. For example, when children read sheet music, they need to understand the position of each note on the stave, which involves the concept of spatial location. Also, the harmony, melody, and rhythm in music can help children understand spatial concepts and rules, such as the direction, distance, and shape of space.

In summary, music education has a significant positive impact on children's cognitive skills,
language skills, mathematical skills, and spatial skills, effectively promoting children's intellectual development.

4. Specific Implementation Suggestions for Music Enlightenment Education

The goal of music enlightenment education is not merely to enable children to learn a musical instrument or to be able to sing a song. More importantly, music enlightenment education should help children start exploring the world of music, cultivate their music literacy and appreciation abilities, and improve their innovative thinking and problem-solving skills.

4.1. Guide children to listen to various types of music

Music has a profound impact on children. It is not only a form of art but also a means of communication and a way to express emotions and ideas. Therefore, guiding children to listen to various types of music is undoubtedly a key to music enlightenment education.

In order to expose children to various types of music from an early age, we can combine their living environment and make music a part of their daily life. For example, we can play different types of music in the home, kindergarten, or school environment. As early as infancy, parents can play some gentle classical music, such as Mozart's lullabies, or some of Bach's works, to create a harmonious and tranquil environment for them. As children grow older, they can be exposed to more types of music, such as folk music, pop music, rock music, etc.

Exposure to different styles of music can help children broaden their horizons and understand the diversity of music. The types and styles of music are so rich, and each type of music has its unique charm. For example, the rigor and beauty of classical music, the vitality and rhythm of pop music, and the characteristics and emotions of folk music can all let children feel the charm of music. [3]

More importantly, by listening to various types of music, children can understand and feel the power of music in expressing emotions, telling stories, and constructing situations. This not only cultivates their music appreciation abilities but also improves their emotional understanding and creativity. Guiding children to listen to various types of music is also an important way to stimulate their interest and love for music. Only when children are interested in music will they be willing to actively explore the world of music, learn instruments, and try music creation. Therefore, whether it is parents, teachers, or music educators, they should strive to guide children to listen to various types of music and stimulate their love for music.

4.2. Advocate learning multiple instruments

Learning to play an instrument is an important part of music education, and it has a positive impact on many aspects of a child's abilities. It is not only a way to learn music but also a training for children's psychological, emotional, physical, and other abilities.

Learning an instrument can help children understand and experience music more deeply. Music is not only an auditory art but also a performing art. Through their own performance, children can understand the rhythm, melody, harmony, and other elements of music from another angle, and feel the rhythm and dynamics of music. For example, children learning to play the piano can not only hear the music but also feel the rhythm and strength of the music through their fingers.

Learning an instrument can exercise children's hand-eye coordination. Playing an instrument requires children to pay attention to vision, hearing, and action at the same time, which puts high demands on their hand-eye coordination. For example, children learning to play the piano need to use both hands to play different melodies at the same time, which is good training for their hand coordination.

Learning an instrument can improve children's concentration and self-management skills. Learning any instrument requires persistent practice, which challenges children's concentration and self-discipline. For example, children learning the violin need to practice for several hours every day, which requires them to have a high level of self-management and self-motivation. Learning an instrument is also beneficial to children's social development. In an orchestra or choir, children need to cooperate with others to create music. This can not only help them learn how to cooperate with others but also enhance their social skills and team spirit.
Therefore, encouraging children to learn instruments is an important content of music education. Whether it is learning the piano, violin, guitar, or percussion instruments, it can bring rich learning experiences to children and contribute to their holistic development.

4.3. Encourage children to participate in music creation

In music creation, children can use their imagination to express their feelings and thoughts, thereby stimulating their innovative thinking and self-expression abilities. This not only helps to improve their music literacy, but also contributes to their emotional development and social interaction abilities.

Music creation can stimulate children's innovative thinking. In music creation, children need to create their own melodies and rhythms, which requires them to apply innovative thinking and break through existing thinking patterns. For example, children can experiment with different notes and chords to create their unique music pieces. This kind of innovative thinking is not only beneficial to music creation but also helpful to their other studies and life.

Music creation can exercise children's expressive abilities. Music is a powerful tool of expression that can help children express their emotions and ideas. In music creation, children can transform their life experiences, emotional experiences, and views of the world into music, which is a unique and profound way of expression.

Music creation can also promote children's social interaction abilities. In the process of creation, children can share their works with others and get feedback from them, which is a good social interaction process. They can also learn how to cooperate with others, how to respect others' ideas, and how to solve problems in cooperation through collaborative creation.

Therefore, encouraging children to participate in music creation is an important part of music enlightenment education. Whether creating their own songs or writing their own music stories can provide valuable learning experiences for children and contribute to their holistic development.

5. Conclusion

Music enlightenment education refers to guiding and cultivating children's interest and ability in music through a series of music activities before they receive formal music education, laying the foundation for future music learning. The main purpose of music enlightenment education is to let children feel the beauty of music, cultivate a love for music, and improve music literacy in a relaxed and enjoyable atmosphere through games, singing, dancing, and playing instruments, thus generating a strong interest and love for music. Music enlightenment education has a positive impact on children's intellectual development. Therefore, we should pay attention to and promote music enlightenment education so that more children can benefit from it.

References