

The Application and Development of Zhangzhou Budai Puppet Theater in the Kindergarten Curriculum

Qinjie Huang, Zhuyan He

Fuzhou University of International Studies and Trade, Fuzhou, Fujian, 350200, China

Abstract: Zhangzhou, known as Zoulu on the seashore since ancient times, has a rich cultural heritage and flourishing culture. Zhangzhou Puppet originated in Zhangzhou, Fujian in the Southern Song Dynasty, and was popularized in Guangdong, Taiwan, and Southeast Asia in the late Ming Dynasty, with a development history of more than one thousand years. As a traditional opera, the inheritance and development of Budai Puppetry, an intangible cultural heritage that condenses the essence of regional ethnic culture, has gained widespread support from all walks of life, and in the series of activities of the intangible cultural heritage in schools, how to explore and bring into play its educational value has become a new issue. As a result, the value of regional cultural resources in early childhood art education is explored, and attention is paid to the comprehensive nurturing nature of kindergarten aesthetic education in a comprehensive perspective. In this way, we can build an appropriate cultural curriculum and realize the living heritage of regional culture.

Keywords: Budai Puppet Theater, Minnan Culture, Opera Culture

This study focuses on the application and development of Puppet Theater in kindergartens, using local puppet theater resources, researching the age characteristics and interests of young children through the opportunity to conduct activities in children's summer camps, and carrying out the operational performance, inherited skills, and humanistic spirit in puppet theater through a series of educational activities in a way familiar to young children so that they can obtain comprehensive quality development.

1. The Source of the Budai Puppet Show to Explore and Develop Issues

As an important part of the Chinese traditional music system, puppet theater interprets the ideological core of traditional ritual culture, ancient ritual music, and elegant sound to regulate people's moral consciousness, and behavior cultivation, puppet theater also has a good ideological edification, subconsciously guiding people to build up and conduct themselves. As a bright crystallization of the national memory, Zhangzhou Puppet Theatre not only plays the function of carrying the history and culture but also fills the spiritual world of people.

1.1 The Origin of the Puppet Show

Ancient puppet theater is a kind of traditional Chinese theater, with a deep cultural heritage, originated in the Han Dynasty and flourished in the Tang Dynasty^[1]. Jin Dynasty Wang Jia "Gleanings" recorded: "South of the South, there is Fu Lou country, its people are good at tricky changes or in the palm of the hand to prepare for the music of the hundred beasts, turning and bending between the fingers. " All puppets as the medium of performance, according to the different ways of performance is divided into staff head puppets, string puppets, cloth bag puppets.

1.1.1 Zhangzhou Puppet Show

Originated from the opera in Zhangzhou, Fujian Province, Zhangzhou has been known as the seaside Zulu since ancient times, the humanities, cultural prosperity, for the rise of puppetry, Zhangzhou bag puppetry in the Southern Song Dynasty in Zhangzhou, Fujian Province, the end of the Ming Dynasty in Taiwan, Guangdong and Southeast Asia, and other regions, the end of the Qing Dynasty has been the rapid development of the history of development of more than 1,000 years, is the country's most rare, one of the oldest traditional art forms.

1.1.2 Kindergarten Puppet Education

Kindergarten puppet education in this study refers to the kindergarten's use of local puppetry resources in the surrounding area, based on the age characteristics and interests and needs of young children in the institution, through a series of educational activities to pass on the artistic elements and cultural spirit of puppetry to young children in a way that is acceptable to them, or to make use of the characteristics of puppets to carry out educational activities by means of puppets, so that young children can familiarize themselves with the local art of puppetry and obtain comprehensive development of Education.

1.2 The Need for the Inheritance and Development of Budai Puppetry

In the process of multicultural integration and development, ethnic traditional culture has encountered impacts, with many problems such as decreasing audiences and declining skills of the new generation of inheritors. The key to the preservation of living heritage is to create a suitable environment for it, just like raising fish in a pond. The key is to create a suitable environment for it (Yuan Li, Gu Jun, 2006) [2]. As an intangible cultural heritage, the puppet show needs to have a warm and soulful living heritage, not just to keep it in the image, but more importantly, to explore the cultural connotation and literary heritage behind it. It is more important to explore the cultural connotation and literary heritage behind it (Zhang Zihan, 2023)) [3].

2. The Research Significance and Educational Value of Budai Puppet Theater

2.1 Educational function

Puppet show caters to children's interests and inner needs, operable puppets symbolize the children's eyes "toys"; and puppet form and children's behavior is quite similar to the story of the plot is exactly what children love. Therefore, the puppet show is loved by children, therefore, simple and easy to operate puppets in line with the age of young children, catering to the interests of young children, especially easy to attract the attention of young children!

Puppets are exaggerated in shape, flexible and interesting, easy to use, and loved by children. Puppet education activities in kindergarten can realize the multi-dimensional development of children's skills. In the storyline appreciation and performance to promote the development of children's social interaction skills, gradually learn to express, learn to listen, learn to use language, and in the story of learning to form a good moral character; puppet performance games, through the role of cooperation, can experience the sense of cooperation and happiness, thus promoting the improvement of their cooperation ability; in the operation of puppets, the children's fingers, muscles, joints and so on to get exercise. Using puppets as a means to carry out education, it is easier to stimulate young children's desire for knowledge; and the plot of the puppet show will attract young children's attention, so that young children will remember the plot of the puppet show, to a certain extent, the development of young children's memory.

As life experiences and activities expand with age, young children's emotions change, and a range of advanced emotions such as cognitive, social, moral, and beauty perceptions emerge (Lin Xu, 2022). [4] Young children feel different degrees of pleasure and excitement for music or songs of different familiarity and different colors of feeling and expression. Folk Art and Kindergarten Curriculum Traditional opera are highly ornamental and aesthetic, and its inclusion of literature, music, dance, and other art forms is extremely comprehensive. The content of opera is either derived from people's lives or history, myths, and legends, both living and literary. As a comprehensive discipline, it excels in art forms, literature, music, and art.

2.2 The Cultural Value of the Budai Puppet Show

In the process of cultural inheritance and historical development, Zhangzhou puppet opera art and cultural characteristics of the integration of the characteristics of each period, in the performance style and music singing, also reflect the culture of different regions and different periods. For example, in the performance, the choice of Beijing opera do style; and in the style, the choice of local opera performance style. In the role plasticity, music composition, and dialogue of the puppet show, there are distinctive regional characteristics, for example, the dialogue part uses the Minnan dialect, the music uses "Xiang opera", and the content is based on folklore and ancient classical works.

In the article "Kindergarten Education Guidelines (for Trial Implementation)", it is mentioned that "education for young children can be divided into five categories: language, society, science, health, and art, and should be comprehensive and enlightening. Ragdoll puppetry contains literature, music, dance, and other art forms, is extremely comprehensive, has a high degree of ornamental and aesthetic, covering modules such as speaking, singing, operating, performing, and producing, and is a high-quality resource for the development of young children in the areas of language, society, and art. Puppet theater is introduced into kindergartens to increase the cultural and artistic atmosphere of kindergartens. The kindergarten will be able to experience the charm of traditional art.

2.3 Integration of Regional Traditional Culture

The art field in kindergarten needs to guide children to feel and create beauty. Folk art's "aesthetic" nature is lifelike, practical, and comprehensive. As a good local cultural resource, puppet theater can play a harmonious role in the overall development of children's personalities and abilities. 3 to 6 years old is the golden period of early childhood art development, so the traditional classical culture is infiltrated into early childhood education so that children can feel the charm of opera, experience the fun of learning, and develop the emotion of love for the motherland and hometown in the humming and performing environment.

3. The Problem of the Inheritance of the Budai Puppet Show Countermeasure Program

3.1 Principles of Curriculum Design and Implementation

(1) Feeling and Appreciating the Implementation Stage

The perception and appreciation stage is to combine audio-visual to provide children with a world of art that is illustrated with sound and scenes. The appreciation of opera music is a dynamic embodiment of knowledge, which allows children to feel the rhythmic changes of melodies in the context and enhances their motivation for appreciation. The appreciation of opera characters is to visualize vivid art, providing children with the opportunity to dialogue and communicate with the aesthetic objects, to devote themselves to teaching activities, and to actively perceive the rhythm of traditional opera art (Bian Shiyong, 2009)^[5].

(2) Expression and Creation of the Implementation Phase

Puppet theater performance is an important way for children to express themselves and express their true feelings, so it is especially important to provide the conditions for children to express and create. Based on this, classes such as painting traditional opera costumes, making puppets, and playing opera percussion instruments are designed as channels for children's creative expression. Improves the relationship between children and their peers, enhances children's satisfaction and sense of accomplishment, and strengthens their ability to feel and experience beauty.

3.2 Course Content Design

Set rich Music Games

Puppetry singing encompasses the art forms of craftsmanship, theater, singing and music, The development of music games can increase children's perceptual experience of opera. Music games are game activities conducted under a system of musical sounds at different pitches or a system of noise to develop a sense of rhythm and rhythm, and as a special kind of rhythmic activity, music and games have the characteristics of promoting each other and complementing each other. It can fully develop children's musical expression ability and also enable them to master certain opera experiences (Su Li, 2018)^[6-7].

"Gongs, drums, strings, and music to play, the palm of the universe," the artist manipulates the idol for dramatic performances, making it come alive, lifelike, both to reflect the human drama of singing, reading, doing, playing, as well as joy, anger, sadness, happiness, and feelings, but also to perform. Puppet theater is particularly good at martial arts scenes and good at portraying the character. As it is said, "action is life, the action of the puppet is its stage language, is a "visible language".

Puppet Performance

Puppet performance is a storyline interpretation that is realized by young children with the help of the stage, by manipulating puppets, and through movement and language. The scripts can be from

existing puppet theater repertoire, children's favorite children's stories, or life content that meets children's knowledge and experience. Teachers perform for children's enjoyment, or children can perform on their own, including story selection, role assignment, and rule setting. As a favorite activity of young children, play has an important role in promoting the development of young children. It is an important way to promote the physical health, social interaction and language development of young children, a way to cultivate their cooperation ability, moral sense and other important qualities, and an important means to promote the development of their general abilities such as intelligence, imagination and creativity. Therefore, in kindergarten traditional art education, teachers must explore the point of convergence between traditional art and play activities, so that young children can feel the charm of traditional art in play activities. Dramatic performances should not pay too much attention to the teaching of puppet manipulation skills to young children, ignoring the cultivation of creativity in the process of their puppet games. Traditional puppet performance has programmed movements, but teachers insist on requiring puppet operation skills, but will reduce the creative play of young children in the game. Therefore, kindergartens in the process of traditional art education, in the process of retaining the traditional art elements, do not make too much demand for skills, to retain its playful character.

4. Conclusion

Nowadays, the inheritance and protection mechanism of puppet theater has been improving, but there is still a lack of research on the educational value of puppet theater. For kindergarten education, Zhangzhou Puppet Theatre is a very high-quality educational resource, that needs to deepen the research, improve attention, and play its educational value, but also can promote its heritage and development. At the same time, we realize the irreplaceable importance of traditional cultural education in kindergartens.

Acknowledgement

Fund Projects: Innovative Entrepreneurship Training Program for College Students in Fujian Province, the Use of Zhangzhou Puppet Theater in Kindergarten Curriculum (202213762008).

Innovative Entrepreneurship Training Program for College Students in Fujian Province (s202313762030)

References

- [1] *Puppet Show (Zhangzhou Puppet Show) - China Intangible Cultural Heritage Website - China Intangible Cultural Heritage Digital Museum.*
- [2] Yuan Li. & Gu Jun. (2006). *Ten basic principles of intangible cultural heritage protection. Learning and Practice (11), 118-128. doi:10. 19624/j. cnki. cn42-1005/c. 2006. 11. 019.*
- [3] Zhang Zhihan. & Huang Zhenxian. J. S. (2023). *The transmission and development of Nan Yin culture in colleges and universities. Comparative Studies in Cultural Innovation (02), 141-144+169.*
- [4] Lin Xu. (2022). *The value and inheritance of Zhangzhou Budai Puppet. Journal of Ezhou University (03), 66-67+72. doi: 10. 16732/j. CNKI. jeu. 2022. 03. 024.*
- [5] Bian Shiyong. (2009). *Characteristics of young children's aesthetic psychological development and educational strategies. Journal of Xichang College (Social Science Edition) (02), 89-92. doi:10. 16104/j. issn. 1673-1883. 2009. 02. 029.*
- [6] Su Li. (2018). *A study on the current situation and strategies for the transmission of Suzhou traditional opera in kindergarten music education activities. Journal of Tianjin Textbook Institute(01), 75-77. doi:10. 16137/j. cnki. cn12-1303/g4. 2018. 01. 024.*
- [7] Bai Yonghua and Hong Shijian, *Southern Style Pugilistic Opera, Hangzhou: Zhejiang People's Publishing House, 2012, p. 5.*
- [8] Aibin Lin. (2016). *Teaching for fun--The use of Zhangzhou cloth bag puppets in early childhood education. Popular Literature and Art (12), 218.*
- [9] Wang, H. R. (2018). *Master's Thesis on Research on Kindergarten Puppet Education Practice, Fujian Normal University.* https://kns.cnki.net/kcms2/article/abstract?v=vCcGnC-OR22EF7pXRtgBadN5XKS0BSlqTlhiShQOMcqpJqs3BUv8it_DXzQEL5y7kz_Xq8VNkTPlgDxRaRGWI2AkLocMpaOyqJMVHjpQ2UZcLJENff7JrCxKU_Rz8D5OdedCp1OpK8o_DNklMWw==uniplatform=NZKPTlanguage=CHS