MATHEMATICS AT PRESCHOOL PERIOD

[1]NERIMAN ARAL, [2]FIGEN GURSOY, [3]BURCIN AYSU, [4]ECE OZDOGAN OZBAL

Abstract— Preschool period spans from birth to primary education and forms the basis of life. Development and learning is fast in that period, the foundations of personality are laid in that period, and the first learning experiences take place. It is at the same time the very period, in which the foundations of mathematical concepts, mathematical thinking, problem-solving skills, and positive attitude towards mathematics are laid. The first experiencesas regards mathematicsare acquired via experiences gainedin association with perceptual development, as a result of the children's experience with objects. Thanks to the mathematical activities the cognitive development, conceptual development, observational skills, reasoning skills, ability to establish cause and effect relationship, and problem-solving skills of the children are enhanced, and the foundations of mathematical concepts and skills that will be in use in the future are laid.In other words, the first mathematical attainments hold an important place for scientific knowledge can provide solutions to problems in practice. Mathematical activities based on research and discovery should be planned so as to allow children to learn by experience and establish active interaction with objects. Therefore, parents, teachers, and scholars assume great responsibility in supporting mathematical skills. Accordingly, the present study discussed the characteristics of the preschool mathematical skills and the scope of mathematical activities and recommendations were presented for the parents the preschool teachers in the field, and researchers.

Keywords— Mathematics, Preschool Period, Applied Sciences.