



ENHANCING LOGICAL REASONING AND CRITICAL THINKING THROUGH PROJECT-BASED LEARNING

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One of the most important models for teaching English in the classrooms of the world is Project-based learning. It is implemented in the classrooms of different age groups. By using this approach teachers cannot only enhance the language skills of their students but also their logical reasoning and critical thinking. Besides this approach encourages students to engage with material in a collaborative and experiential way, promoting deeper understanding and independent learning skills.

Project-based learning encourages students to think outside of the box. The work is performed by students, for this reason it is student-centred, and as students work together it helps them to enhance their social skills like collaboration.

While working on the project students think logically and critically eventually enhancing their logical and critical thinking skills.

The students work on their projects over an extended period of time that engages them in solving a real-world problem or answering a complex question. The project should be challenging, open-ended, and interdisciplinary, and it should require students to apply their knowledge and skills from various subjects. Countries like UK, USA, Canada and other major countries focuses on these learning methods.

Effective project-based educators promote subject-area learning; create relevant experiences; cultivate a classroom culture of production, feedback, reflection, and revision; and build student agency in learning communities.¹³

There are a number of benefits of project-based learning method.

The most crucial criterion for learning any concept is applying them to real world situations. So by working on a project students learn how to apply them to real world situations in a meaningful way.

While working on a project students analyze information, search for versatile solutions and evaluate those solutions in order to choose the most appropriate ones. By doing so they think logically and critically eventually develop their logical reasoning and critical thinking skills.

Project based learning develops students` creative thinking. When students analyze the problems and try to come up with relevant solutions they try to find creative ways of solving the problem.

It promotes students' engagement and motivation. We can say that it is relevant to Montessori Method of teaching as this approach gives students a sense of ownership and

 $^{^{13}}$ Grossman, Pam & Dean, Christopher & Kavanagh, Sarah & Herrmann, Zachary. (2019). Preparing teachers for project-based teaching. Phi Delta Kappan. 100. 43-48. 10.1177/0031721719841338.



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autonomy over their learning, they are more likely to feel invested in the material and to develop a deeper understanding of the concepts. This can lead to higher levels of achievement and a greater enjoyment of learning.

Finally, this approach helps students to develop their communication skills and empathy.

Most of the new English textbooks in Uzbekistan incorporate projects in every unit.

I want to mention here the project with the type of folklore - fairy tales. I used the following project work:

Project. The best fairy tale contest.

The world's best fairy tale competition is being held. Choose one of the Uzbek folk tales and recommend it to the best fairy tale contest. Submit your recommendation as a booklet.

Primary school students were given one week to do the project they worked groups of four.

By doing this project they enhanced both their soft skills and hard skills.

Another project which also worked well is comparing the Urgut Mountains, Susambil, and Samarkand city.

First during the class we read the fairy tale "Susambil" and then I asked them to fill in the table in pairs.

In the Urgut				
mountains				
You can see:		 	 	
You can hear:				
You can taste:				
You can smell:				
You can touch:				
In Susambil				
You can see:	I			
You can hear:				
You can taste:				
You can smell:				
You can touch:				
Samarkand city				
You can see:	l			
You can hear:	l			
You can taste:	l			
You can smell:	l			
You can touch:	l			
	L			

Then I gave them one week to prepare a booklet which should have the comparison of the Urgut mountains, Susambil and Samarkand city.



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As for assessment ask students to peer assess the other groups.

To sum up, project-based approach can be applied to any course material of different age groups. It can help children to develop their hard and soft skills which they will need in the future.

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