

**THE IMPORTANCE OF NATURAL SCIENCE IN ELEMENTARY GRADES AND  
THE DEVELOPMENT OF STUDENT SKILLS THROUGH METHODS.****Sotiboldiyeva Shokhista Jaloliddin qizi**

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**Abstract:** This article highlights the importance of teaching natural science in primary grades, its role in developing students' scientific outlook, observation, analysis, independent thinking and practical skills. Through natural science, students understand the relationship between natural phenomena, animate and inanimate nature, and the relationship between man and nature. The article analyzes the effectiveness of using modern pedagogical technologies, interactive methods, experimental and observation methods in the lesson process. It also considers the importance of the teacher's role in shaping students' creative activity and a responsible attitude towards nature.

**Keywords:** competency-based approach, natural science, existence, nature, climatic phenomena, student motivation, natural science, demonstration, handouts, methods, plants, creative idealism.

Today, the introduction of natural science into primary school textbooks, which is one of the most relevant topics, has caused a lot of discussion among the public. In this subject, measures are being taken based on a competency-based approach to arouse interest in students, understanding the concepts of nature and man. We know that before the establishment of "natural science", it was called Natural Science. In this subject, students were also given detailed information about all the processes, phenomena, and changes in the plant and animal world. However, within the framework of this subject, the establishment of natural science is now aimed at increasing students' interest in nature, distinguishing between living and non-living nature, and adhering to the rules of etiquette.

Nature is the existence of all matter and energy necessary for human life. It is a set of conditions for the existence of humanity, a sacred place for all living beings, and a whole existence that surrounds us. Based on these concepts, it is necessary to instill in students the feelings of preserving nature and treating it with care. It is primarily the duty of the teacher to teach students how to protect nature, how to prevent various factors that are allowed to disrupt the ecology, and how to avoid harming the plants and trees around us. The teacher must have experienced knowledge in this subject, and be intelligent at the level of a qualified and professional teacher.

Natural science includes conclusions such as improving the relationship between nature and man, further developing interest in nature, understanding what is happening in the environment, implementing changes in the animal world, distinguishing all plants in the plant world and what they are useful for, and reflecting on the concept of nature in students. The main task of the natural and economic sciences block-module is to illuminate the complex of scientific and practical knowledge about the phenomena and processes occurring in nature, the stages of development of living organisms, and the impact of humanity on the laws of nature and society.

This is the main goal of studying this subject. If children are encouraged to study natural sciences from an early age, they will realize that it is an interesting subject and feel the need to study it. They will learn about the occurrence of climatic phenomena in nature, for example: rain, snow, sunrise, sunset, or in which seasons it is cold or hot, warm, the benefits of rain for plants, the benefits of sunlight for plants, flowers, and crops. As you know, natural science was presented as a separate subject in grades 1-2, "The World Around Us", and in grades 3-4, "Natural Science" was presented as a textbook. Currently, natural science textbooks are taught up to grade 6. In addition, natural science has been introduced in higher education institutions in pedagogical areas. It is not surprising that if a natural science textbook is designed to increase students' love for nature, protect nature, and be active in class, it will certainly strengthen students' knowledge and increase their interest in this subject if the teacher's idealistic skills and creative approach are used.

Let's say, based on the psychology of students, if we use color during the lesson, i.e., various visual aids, colored paper, science-related questions, assignments, crosswords, cutting out a natural picture in the form of a mosaic and reassembling it, we will effectively organize the lesson in terms of aspiration, growth, increased attention to the lesson, strengthening memory, and development in the student. It is likely that the topics covered based on the above methods will remain in the memory for a long time.

The importance of natural science in elementary school:

1. Forms a scientific worldview; a primary school student studies natural phenomena for the first time. They begin to understand the connections between things and phenomena, cause-and-effect relationships. For example; by observing what happens to a plant if it is not watered, he understands causality.
2. Cultivates love and responsibility for the environment; to develop qualities such as love for nature, protection of animals and plants, appreciation of a clean environment.
3. Develops observation and thinking; in the process of studying nature, the student develops thinking activities such as seeing, comparing, analyzing, and drawing conclusions. This also helps him learn other subjects.
4. Brings him closer to practical Eid; in natural science lessons, students understand the processes in their daily lives - such as temperature changes, plant care, and the proper use of water and electricity.
5. Harmonizes national and international values; through natural science lessons, students learn about the nature, climate, and resources of their country, and at the same time feel a sense of responsibility for the entire planet Earth.

During the lesson with students, the use of methods such as "fishing", "observation", "experiment", "question and answer and conversation", "excursion", "active learning", "role playing", "thought board", "insert", "pair work", "solar system", "nature and man", "brainstorming", "fish skeleton", "research" helps students develop independent, practical thinking skills and love for nature. In teaching natural sciences in primary grades, there are many methods that encourage students to think actively, learn independently and work positively.

Let's use one of the above methods as an example with students. The "Fishing" method. This method is mainly organized by the teacher for grades 2-3. It is recommended to use this method to attract children to the lesson, consolidate the lesson, test students' knowledge, awaken their mental potential, skills and interest in the lesson, as well as to fully understand the topic. The items needed for the "Fishing" method are: a picture of the sea, a picture of an aquarium and various fish.

On the back of the fish should be written questions, tasks or puzzles related to the topic covered in natural science. A picture of the sea is pasted on one side of the board, and a picture of an aquarium is pasted on the other side, and fish are placed on both pictures. A question or task is written on the back of the fish. A student who is not active in the lesson or has a low grade comes out and answers whatever is behind the fish, that is, if a question appears, he answers the question or if a task appears, he completes a science task.

Thus, our game continues. The student who answers the question correctly or completes the task in full is encouraged. The role of natural sciences is undeniable, as they are the heart of science today. Because the knowledge of the laws of nature, the problems posed by such sciences as genetics, education, mathematics, physics, chemistry, plant and animal systems, anthropology, geology, geophysics, and the interaction of living things with nature are of great importance in solving problems. The relationship between nature and man is the most difficult problem to solve. It is no secret to many that under the influence of human activity, drought is increasing, desertification, water reserves are decreasing, pollution of the natural environment is increasing, water, air, and especially food are scarce, and hunger affects a quarter of the world's population, and its prevention is one of the urgent problems of our time. The future development of this science is seen in its need to solve the following important global tasks in the future.

The true purpose of this subject is the science of natural science, its subject, purpose, and methods of teaching, the laws of mutual harmony of living beings in nature and the natural environment, the appearance of the universe in planetary form, the sun, moon, and planet Earth, their general description; the global changes that have occurred and are occurring in it, the emergence of life on Earth, and the harmony of the living and non-living parts of the Earth.

Natural science teaching methodology is a pedagogical discipline that studies the purpose, content, methods, and means of teaching natural sciences in primary grades. It studies ways to convey scientific knowledge about nature to students in an easy, interesting, and understandable way.

Below is a detailed explanation of the natural science teaching methodology:

1. The goal of the natural science teaching methodology is to:

form scientific knowledge about nature, cultivate a sense of love and conservation of nature, develop observation, analysis, and experimental skills, and develop a scientific worldview in elementary school students.

2. Main tasks. The methodology of teaching natural sciences performs the following tasks:

Forming elementary concepts about nature in students; providing guidance on the choice of teaching methods and forms; teaching effective lesson organization; organizing practical activities of students (experiments, observations, excursions, etc.); establishing teaching natural sciences lessons based on modern technologies.

3. Teaching methods. The following main methods are used in natural sciences lessons:

Type of method Content. Observation Consists of direct study of phenomena in nature. Observation of tree leaf fall experiment (experiment) Investigating the phenomenon in artificial conditions Demonstration of water evaporation, opening new knowledge through conversation, question and answer, discussion about the weather, demonstration method, use of pictures, models, videos, solar system model, practical work, Active participation of students, planting seeds and observing their germination, excursion, learning in nature, trip to the garden or field.

4. Teaching aids. Textbooks and study guides Visual materials (pictures, posters, models) Technical means (multimedia, videos) Natural objects (plant, stone, animal specimen)

5. Teaching methods. Traditional lessons Practical exercises Laboratory work Excursions, project-based learning

6. Modern approaches. Currently, the following approaches are widely used in the methodology of teaching natural sciences: STEAM approach (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math). Integrated education (natural sciences + mathematics + technology), interactive methods (cluster, brainstorming, insert, debate), use of information technologies.

In short, the methodology of teaching natural sciences directs the teacher to explain nature to students on a scientific basis, to educate them as active, independent thinkers, to teach them to love and preserve nature.

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