

RESEARCH ACTIVITY AS A MEANS OF ACTIVATING THE EDUCATIONAL PROCESS IN HISTORY IN BASIC SCHOOL

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Introductions. Civilizational changes occurring in the world impose new demands on the development of education as a whole. Rapid progress in high technology and the endless flow of diverse information require professional flexibility - individuals must continually elevate their levels of education, acquire new technologies and professions, and at times, change their areas of activity.

Aim. Contemporary society necessitates not only highly educated individuals but also those with an original, creative type of thinking who can independently make responsible decisions and anticipate their consequences. They must be capable of active innovation and possess mobility and a constructive approach to problem solving. This implies that schools, and history teachers in particular, should direct their efforts toward the application of pedagogical technologies and methods that not only enrich students' knowledge of the subject matter but also foster qualities such as cognitive activity, independence, critical thinking, and the ability to creatively complete tasks. One effective means of achieving this goal is organizing research activities for students, both during class and in extracurricular settings.

Materials and methods. By research activity, we mean the activities of students related to the search for answers to creative and research tasks with an unknown solution in advance. This involves the presence of fundamental stages characteristic of research in the scientific sphere, including defining the problem (or identifying the main question), studying theoretical and historical material related to the chosen topic, formulating a research hypothesis, selecting research methods and practical mastery of them, gathering their own material on the subject, analyzing and summarizing it, and drawing their own conclusions. This sequence is an integral part of research activity, a standard for its implementation, although not all links in the

chain are always necessary in the process of working on a specific historical issue [1].

Results and discussion. The main aspects (characteristics) of research activity in the process of learning history are: 1) identifying a problem in the learning material that has an ambiguous solution (especially important for textbooks, where a problematic presentation of the material is an important aspect); 2) developing students' skills to formulate assumptions and hypotheses using a system of specially designed tasks; 3) developing students' skills to work with various sources of information and their analysis; 4) forming skills and abilities of self-education, which implies active cognitive activity of students; 5) developing students' ability to take a research position and apply elements of research work; 6) forming the ability to present the results of research search [1-3].

The leading functions of research activity in the process of learning history in basic school, in our opinion, are: creating a positive motivation of students for learning; developing their cognitive interest and ability to take a research position; acquiring students' skills to independently set and achieve goals in the learning activity based on the application of elements of research activity within the subjects of the curriculum and the system of extracurricular education; forming skills and abilities of self-education, that is, forming ways of active cognitive activity [1; 2].

Conclusions. Analysis of scientific sources, teaching practice, as well as data of empirical studies confirm that systematic implementation of research activity during learning history in basic school can significantly improve the level of academic achievements and historical competence of students. This, in turn, will contribute to the development of key creative characteristics, such as originality, flexibility, productivity of thinking, ease of association, sensitivity to problems, as well as increase the practical orientation of skills and competencies of students [1-3].

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