Primary education: early language development

Education



1. Situations that foster early social and instructional interaction When a child is born, there are lots of steps in its development process. Learning of language skills, life skills, interacting with peers, grown ups and others, handling emotions, and a host of other things are all that the parents and society teach a child.

Depending on the social conditions and interaction with parents, a child picks up language skills. A child that gets to spend a lot of time with the parents would be able to hear, imbibe and speak new words. Apart from the parents, a child can interact with other children and people around him/her. A child that is left alone the whole day will be prone to be less communicative.

Babies pick up sounds and voices around them. So, a child that has more people around him/her will be able to communicate better and faster. Such a child would have an advantage and be able to adjust better to surroundings and society.

Good communication skills are of prime importance, whether at institutional level or at the home-front. A child that is used to conversation with the parents at home in the early years will be able to interact better in the school/college. A child that is not used to people around him/her might tend to be an introvert and might even become less sociable in the long run.

A lot of love, care and time given to the child have a very positive impact on the learning abilities of the child in the formative years.

Q2. Situations that discourage adequate early language development
Situations that discourage adequate early language development might be
numerous. The most important among these could be shyness due to low
interaction with parents/peers and others in the early years. When both the
parents are working or busy otherwise, and do not interact with the child
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much, it might adversely affect the language development. Other factors could be medical conditions like stammering of speech, hearing impairment, and other disabilities.

Constant rebuttal by parents /teachers/peers is another factor that could discourage adequate early language development. Similarly, unacceptable behaviour by either or both of the parents might leave a deep impact on the child's psychology and the child might face difficulties, not only in learning languages, but in all subjects/topics taught in the school/college.

3. How early language environments affect subsequent language development

Communication is the key that can break any lock or barrier. People, who have good language skills from early childhood are able to write better, speak better and interact better. Language is the basis for imbibing any kind of knowledge. If a person's vocabulary is good, he/she can gather more knowledge, grasp things better and faster and also be a better human being. His/her horizons will increase manifold. Such a person will look forward to learning more: more languages, more topics, more knowledge, in short. Thus, positive learning environments in early years can trigger the growth and quest for knowledge throughout the life of an individual. Such an individual will be better adjusted socially and emotionally too. Compared to people who are not very god communicators, such people will get along well with others and lead a much happier life and be content in life.