The Significance of Teaching Children's Picture Books with "Five Senses Experience"

Peng Ruiqi, Xu Dangui

Art College, Anhui University of Finance and Economics, Bengbu, 233000, China

Keywords: Experience Children's, Picture Book, Art Education, Five Senses

Abstract: With the rapid development of technology, children's reading media also have different carriers, from the initial hand drawn books to today's smartphones and tablets. Traditional reading media is no longer sufficient for most families, and children's picture books should also incorporate more creative thinking to bring children a more comprehensive experience. Based on the "five sensory experiences", this article explores more possibilities for teaching children's picture books from the perspectives of visual, auditory, tactile, olfactory, and taste, combined with children's psychology, in order to achieve spiritual communication with children, Cultivate children's aesthetic awareness, physical and mental health, and comprehensive qualities through picture book teaching.

Picture book education in China has become an important form of children's education. Picture books were originally presented in the form of illustrations. Although these illustrations have a certain ability to tell stories, they do not truly stand from the perspective of children to tell stories. Nowadays, children's education is crucial, and children's art education is not only to let children learn to draw. The most important thing is to stimulate children's inner nature through these visual media, cultivate their comprehensive qualities, and start from "sensory experience", stimulate children's curiosity and drive, promote their abilities in language, intelligence, action, and other aspects. At the same time, teachers should also design interesting teaching classrooms based on different picture books to promote emotional communication between teachers and children.

1. The definition of "Five Senses"

In the book "Tonggan", it is recorded that vision, touch, smell, and hearing can connect with each other, and colors can be perceived as warm, sour, sweet, bitter, spicy, and salty; Perceived warmth and coldness in sound, perceived weight, perceived taste, and so on. The five senses are the source of vitality. Only by opening them can children feel the connection between nature and the universe. Through these senses, children can gain an understanding of the outside world. A good children's picture book design should also follow the experience of children's five senses. Firstly, its bright and beautiful colors should stimulate children's visual perception. Secondly, in book processing, children can experience different textures and produce unique tactile effects. Rich imagination and innovation allow children to be in the picture book and feel the stories in the picture book firsthand. The five senses play a significant role in children's growth process, which can promote healthier development and growth.
2. The main content of children's picture books

Nowadays, children are no longer limited to traditional teaching methods, but pay more attention to their comprehensive development. Art teaching is no longer just about teaching children basic drawing techniques, but also focuses more on children's quick thinking ability. Therefore, different learning methods should be adopted for young children at different stages. Children are in a naive cognitive stage, and should not excessively demand the ability to express the shape of art. And it is necessary to enhance their imagination and curiosity. Each child is an independent individual, and they have their own different feelings about different things. In terms of art foundation, children should master the expression of points, lines, surfaces, colors, and forms, which are the basic requirements for learning art. The ability to think quickly is also an indispensable focus in art practice. Children's learning of art is not only about mastering this knowledge and form, but also about mastering it. Moreover, it enhances one's confidence and enhances one's creative thinking. Picture books are not just simple picture books, but also a long process of practice. Excellent children's picture books have outstanding core, novel plot, wonderful colors, and special materials.

Firstly, there should be a prominent theme core, and different themes can be targeted at different types of children. For example, picture books designed for children with autism often have warm stories as the theme. "The Sky of American Russell: Understanding the World of Autistic Children" is a carefully crafted mental health picture book for children with autism, mainly to exercise their adaptability in unfamiliar environments. This picture book is connected through small story plots, Enable children with autism to overcome anxiety, develop good hygiene habits, and better adapt to new environments while reading. In addition, the color scheme of the entire picture book is designed according to the theme, and the theme idea of the picture book is often full of hope, positivity, and positivity.

Secondly, the picture book should have a novel plot and a logical design of the entire storyline. Slowly, the beginning and end of the story should be presented, and the protagonist, time, and place in the story should be explained well. This helps children to better understand the story.

For example, Mike Xiaokui's "Paper Plane" tells the story of a mother who encouraged her child to do what they wanted through a paper plane when they were young. The boy was enthusiastic about drawing, so his mother threw a paper plane at the mountaintop every day. The boy went to the town to learn how to draw, and his mother missed his child in her hometown. When the child realized his dream, his mother never saw him again, only a paper airplane filled with cardboard boxes was left, carrying love for children. The story gradually expresses the profound meaning of "paper airplane" through simple strokes, although not in gorgeous colors, it vividly portrays the mother's love for her child.

Finally, an excellent picture book design should not only have a theme and plot, but also be able to attract children's attention in form. Teachers should make children curious about the content of picture books and create them in a dotted line and surface manner. Special forms and materials can always stimulate children's creative desire, making picture books more interesting.

3. The ways to achieve the "Five Senses" in children's picture books

We live in a society full of visual effects, from various high-rise buildings to dazzling small objects, all of which have visual elements, and bright colors often attract children's attention. In the book "Visual Aesthetics", it is also mentioned that "the texture caused by vision is people's essential feeling of what they see, which attracts people to feel its touch with their hands and produces visual resonance through texture." [1]

For example, "Ink Baby Visual Enlightenment Picture Book" uses traditional ink and wash methods to guide children to focus, from small to large, from shallow to deep, and from black and
white to color transitions. The understanding of lines and surfaces, although picture books are first presented in black and white, is very interesting. The overall visual effect is balanced and to a certain extent, it also plays a protective role in children's vision. As children grow up, picture books also transform from traditional black and white to bright colors, which gradually stimulates children's curiosity and thirst for knowledge when reading picture books. The excellent picture book "The Visual Inspiration Book for Babies" in early education in the UK uses rich visual forms and bold color combinations to stimulate children's visual experiences.

The picture book "Who's Nowling on the Farm" by Usborne in the UK is a story mainly about farm animals, presenting a friendly and warm scene through dialogue between various animals. Not only are the colors bright, but children also design a voice button during the reading process. For example, by lightly tapping the rooster in the picture, they will hear the sound of "oh oh", and various animals will be paired with their respective languages, this also facilitates children's understanding of animals during this process, while improving their imitation ability and language awareness. Usborne's paintings cater to children's preferences in terms of creativity, while also meeting parents' requirements for children, learning through games and exercising through reading.

Smell is a sensation under long-distance stimulation, which is usually associated with sensory perception. Children's olfactory development is relatively late, so their sense of smell is also the most difficult to train. However, babies react to certain odors, such as pulling peeled eggs close to their noses, causing them to turn their heads and cry loudly. However, the smell of some butter can make babies make sucking movements, although it is not possible to determine whether a baby dislikes the smell of rotten eggs or the familiar scent emanating from the mother's body from butter, the baby may be able to quickly learn to appreciate or dislike certain smells. For example, when a baby first smells certain vegetables or fruits, their nose can imagine their scent, expressing a preference or aversion to certain smells. Babies are born with certain odors, and the cultivation and exercise of their sense of smell during their growth is crucial.

It is essential for children to smell the corresponding scent when reading picture book stories, which can encourage them to explore and think more about the story. "Smelling the Flavor of Nature" is a picture book about children's sense of smell. It mainly focuses on plants in nature. During the viewing process, children can smell different odors through various plants, which is also its uniqueness. The author designs paper materials according to the situation, allowing children to fully immerse themselves in nature and feel the beauty of the world. Through picture books, Children are able to discover new mysteries in their own small world, while also enhancing their thinking abilities [2].

Similarly, in "Smelling the Taste of Fruits", when children open this picture book, they are greeted with sweet strawberry fragrance, fresh mint fragrance, and spicy onion fragrance. The book has a peaceful picture, balanced color scheme, and interesting riddles to develop children's thinking. It also contains the fragrance of eight items, and children can not only discover the beauty of vision through their eyes, it is also possible to combine the sense of smell to perceive the odor of different items, in order to stimulate children's senses.

The development of children's taste is earlier than their sense of smell. Many newborn babies can react differently to different tastes. For example, babies often exhibit resistance when eating bitter things, such as frowning, closing their mouth, crying, etc. However, when it comes to sugary drinks with a sweet taste, they also show happy and playful expressions, and their sucking speed will be much faster. For infants aged 4 or 5 months, they are more agile in appreciating taste. Although taste is difficult to express in picture books, the five sensory experiences are interconnected, so excellent picture books often have a sense of taste. Picture books attract children with vivid and interesting storylines, but during this process, their visual, tactile, olfactory, auditory, and taste senses are all affected. Although the five senses have different functions, they all promote children's sensory
development. Lv Jingren once said in an interview that "books can be tasted, and the rich cultural connotations in taste, although they cannot be eaten, they have a taste. It can be seen that in modern picture book design, it is necessary to emphasize more on children's" taste "in reading, break traditional conventions and conservatism, be creative in form, rich in content, and comprehensive in materials."[3]

4. The significance of "five sensory experiences" in children's picture book teaching

Peng Yi, a children's literature writer, once said, "Picture books are a complete story composed of pictures and text. They are a form that combines pictures and text. In the entire picture book, pictures are not mere appendages of text, nor are they only for visual viewing. They are the soul of the entire picture book and the life of the book. Many excellent picture books are even wordless books without a single word." For children's picture books, Pictures are the key to explaining a story, and children can understand the entire storyline through pictures. Therefore, this also requires a higher level of professionalism in picture books. The pictures in picture books are not simply graffiti, but the result of the creator's repeated deliberation and drafting of sketches. The creation of pictures often requires more patience and imagination than words. Therefore, for children, picture books are a good way to cultivate a love for reading and reading. As people's lives become richer and their consumption level rises, more and more families pay more attention to children's education. At the same time, the impact of the COVID-19 has also led to a significant increase in the probability of children suffering from mental illness. A long period of home blockade and isolation and other health measures have had a great negative impact on children's physical and mental health. Many children are accompanied by anxiety and depression risks. Professor Jiang Fan from Shanghai Medical Pediatrics also stated in an interview with reporters, "The physical and mental health of children is very worthy of attention." Picture book teaching can to some extent alleviate children's stress, bring joy to their lives, gain knowledge from rich images, and gain a sense of achievement through the small games or levels designed in picture books. In the process of going from shallow to deep, children not only have the joy of exploring the unknown, but also relax their body and mind[4].

Picture book teaching has also become one of the ways to cultivate children's reading interest in family education. Children are the most precious wealth of parents. Through picture books, parents and children can participate together. When reading picture books, parents can explain things that children do not understand. After reading picture books, parents and children can also share their experiences with each other. Parents can help children understand the outside world while leading them to read. They can also improve their children's communication and expression abilities through Q&A. During reading, parents act as guides, children play followers, and children enjoy a beautiful and peaceful family atmosphere with their parents[5].

Malos divided human basic needs into seven aspects: first, physiological, safety, belonging, and love needs; Secondly, there is a need for respect, cognition, and aesthetics; Finally, there is the need for human self-actualization, and parent-child reading can first satisfy children's need for respect. When children read picture books with their parents, they can feel respect, support, and care, thereby enhancing their confidence in the process. Secondly, it can meet the needs of children for belonging and love. Parents can lead their children to read together, enhance their emotions through mutual communication, generate trust and dependence, and continuously enhance the parent-child relationship. Finally, meeting children's cognitive and aesthetic needs, children are constantly attracted by picture book stories while reading, generating curiosity and a desire to explore. In the process of interacting with parents, new discoveries are made, which makes children's understanding of the content of picture books clearer and more stimulated by the visual pictures in the books, subtly improving their aesthetic abilities. After meeting children's physiological needs, they also pursue
higher spiritual levels, and parent-child reading can enhance children's higher-level needs[6].

Nowadays, picture book designs are becoming increasingly diverse and popular in households. However, there are very few novel picture books based on the "five sensory experiences". Most picture books focus more on visual presentation, but through sensory connections, picture books also have various sensory experiences. Good children's picture books attract children visually and make the entire picture book vivid through color and form. Secondly, during the process of flipping through, accompanied by sound, children are immersed in the scene and covered with corresponding paper smells according to different contents. At the same time, a "small mechanism" is designed to allow children to feel the deep meaning of the story through touch. Picture books trigger children's "five senses", awaken their sensory abilities, strengthen their comprehensive qualities, and promote their all-round development. Children can enjoy the fun in the book while reading, Developing a thirst for knowledge about the world. Children's picture books are popular around the world, but there is still a need for more excellent picture book creators to design and improve them. The design of the "five sensory experiences" in children's picture books also needs to be learned and explored, so that children can grow better.

References