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**CONFERENCE ARTICLE**

**Possibilities Of Applying Differential Approach In Extracurricular Activities In Primary  
Classes**

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**ABSTRACT**

This article highlights the necessity of considering individual characteristics of primary school students in extracurricular activities, the role of differential approach, and its practical application possibilities.

**Keywords:** Primary education, differential approach, extracurricular activities, individual development.

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**INTRODUCTION**

In the educational system of the 21st century, focusing on individual development of primary school students responds not only to pedagogical necessity but also to contemporary societal demands [1]. In the context of globalization and information technology development, each child possesses unique capabilities and interests [12]. While general requirements are set for all students during lessons, extracurricular activities create broad opportunities to consider their interests, abilities, and personal characteristics [5].

From this perspective, the differential approach serves as an effective tool for deeper study of students, creating individual conditions for them, and enabling each child to realize their potential [2]. This approach not only ensures academic success but also positively impacts children's social-emotional development [6].

Differential approach is the process of teaching and educating students not by the same criteria, but by considering their cognitive abilities, psychological characteristics, temperament, learning speed, learning style, and personal interests [2]. In primary school, this approach protects students from excessive pressure, encourages them, and helps develop their unique talents [3].

**Main Principles of the Approach:**

1. Recognition of individual differences - considering that each child has their own unique pace and style of development [4]
2. Adaptability - adapting teaching methods and materials to student needs [2]
3. Progressiveness - gradually increasing difficulty levels according to student development stages [3]
4. Motivation - creating interesting and meaningful activity types for each child [5]
5. Observation and assessment - continuous monitoring of individual development dynamics [4]

According to Howard Gardner's "Multiple Intelligences" theory, children may have talents in various fields: linguistic, logical-mathematical, spatial, musical, kinesthetic, naturalistic,

interpersonal, and intrapersonal intelligences [1]. This theory forms the scientific basis of the differential approach.

1. Importance of Extracurricular Activities in Primary Classes. Extracurricular activities in primary classes are considered an integral part of the educational process [7]. They effectively support not only students' learning process but also their personal and social development [6].

2. Expanding and Deepening Knowledge. Extracurricular activities provide opportunities to expand and deepen students' knowledge [8]. Through practical application of materials covered in lessons, familiarization with additional information, establishing connections between various subjects, and developing interdisciplinary approaches, children's interest in knowledge increases further [9].

3. Developing Creative Abilities. Extracurricular activities also play an important role in developing students' creative abilities [7]. Through creating in arts, music, and literature, engaging in technical and scientific research activities, and participating in innovative projects, children realize their creative potential [8]. This process also serves as an important foundation for choosing their future professional direction.

4. Forming Social Skills

Such activities also hold a special place in forming social skills [11]. Students develop teamwork abilities, cultivate leadership qualities, and improve communication skills [6]. As a result, they develop as active, cooperation-ready, and responsible individuals in society.

Another important function of extracurricular activities is supporting personal development [5]. In this process, students develop independent thinking, responsibility awareness, and self-management skills [3]. Consequently, they develop not only as knowledgeable individuals but as independent decision-makers capable of consciously managing their lives.

1. Application of Differential Approach in Extracurricular Activities. Today, the differential approach occupies an important place in organizing extracurricular activities in primary education [2]. This approach requires using various forms and methods considering students' interests, abilities, and individual needs [4].

2. Adaptive Grouping Strategies. Adaptive grouping strategies increase the effectiveness of extracurricular activities [2]. Students can be engaged in STEM circles, creative workshops, sports sections, or language learning clubs according to their interests [9]. Simultaneously, by forming intensive, standard, and support groups according to ability levels, appropriate conditions can be created for each child's capabilities [4].

3. Individual Work Strategies. Individual work strategies are also of significant importance [1]. For talented students, mentorship programs, project activities, and preparation for olympiads and competitions yield effective results [8]. Such approaches can be enriched with masterclasses and seminars conducted by specialists.

4. Inclusive Education Approach. Within inclusive education, it is necessary to implement adapted programs for children with special needs, adaptation work for students from various cultural environments, and additional support systems for socially vulnerable children [10].

5. Modern Pedagogical Technologies. In contemporary conditions, applying pedagogical technologies is considered an integral part of the differential approach [12]. With the help of digital technologies, organizing virtual laboratories, programming lessons, 3D modeling, and robotics activities enhances children's scientific-technical potential [9].

6. Interactive Methods. Interactive methods make the educational process more interesting:

- Introducing game elements through gamification
- Solving real problems through project-based learning
- Demonstrative practical activities
- Students learning from each other through peer-to-peer methods [11]

Assessment and monitoring systems are important components of the differential approach [4]. Through portfolio approach, maintaining students' creative works, achievement journals, self-assessment notebooks, and development maps forms their self-improvement skills [2].

Continuous monitoring is carried out in the following directions:

- Individual development plans
- Regular communication with parents
- Collaboration with psychologists and social pedagogues
- Statistical analysis of results [6]

When applying the differential approach in extracurricular activities is enriched with modern forms and methods, students' individual capabilities are fully realized, and their creative, intellectual, and social development is ensured [7].

Through this approach, each child gains the opportunity to receive education corresponding to their interests, abilities, and personal needs. As a result, the primary education system achieves the goal of nurturing comprehensively developed individuals who meet the demands of modern society.

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