



The formation of an ecological culture among the students of school (Kashkadarya region) on the example of

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ABSTRACT

This article, using the example of Kashkadarya region, is devoted to forming ecological culture in school-age children. It teaches children to view nature as a part of themselves and of people, to have proper attitudes toward the natural resources they use and the surrounding environment, and to love, respect, and protect nature.

Keywords:

Ecological culture, ecological awareness, ecological upbringing, Kashkadarya region, environment, school education, nature conservation.

Introduction; Kashkadarya region is located in the south of the Republic of Uzbekistan, and is an area with mountain and plain landscapes, rich natural resources, and agriculture as a leading sector. At the same time, the region faces ecological problems such as water scarcity, soil salinization, degradation of pastures, and waste-related issues. Reducing these problems through shaping ecological awareness among schoolchildren is of great importance. The intensification of global problems in modern civilization and the deterioration of the ecological situation in many parts of the world require us today to increasingly pay attention to educating the younger generation about ecology. After all, the world around us is a boundless source of natural wealth, natural resources, and knowledge.

Ecological culture is - As society develops, the impact of people on the environment increases. Man is not only in communication with nature, that is, with plants and their underground and above-ground resources, but also closely

connected with them. At a time when ecological problems are expanding and their solution is urgent, the role of ecological awareness and ecological culture is incomparable.

Students of the school have always been guardians of nature, a means for them to learn about it, and a source for shaping their worldview. From a young age, students should get to know nature, certainly love it, protect it, use it wisely, and convey its natural state to future generations. Protecting nature begins with acquiring ecological culture and simple skills. If, while walking on the street, we throw candy wrappers or pistachio shells into a place not a designated trash box, step on the grass along the path, break a couple of fruit twigs from trees to steal two or three fruits, ruin the nests of birds, litter the rivers and streams—these all testify to our lack of culture and our indifference toward nature. As our grandfather Amur Temur used to say, “The greatest enemy of a person is their indifference,” and this has been emphasized. Indeed, the world around us, all natural resources in our environment, from our

living nature, i.e., the animal world, to the plant world, serves us. Therefore, we must protect and preserve them without harming them, prevent their disappearance, and restore some of their components.

If we talk about the ecological characteristics of the Kashkadarya region, the Kashkadarya River and its tributaries flow through the province. The abundance of arable land for irrigation in agriculture necessitates prudent use of water resources. In the foothill and desert zones, soil erosion, pasture loss, and a decline in natural flora and fauna are observed. Therefore, it is effective to explain regional ecological problems to students and clarify them through practical examples. In schools of Kashkadarya Province, ecological education instills in students a sense of responsibility for their living environment, a culture of saving water and land resources, and national values related to protecting nature. Especially for students living in rural areas, daily life is closely connected with nature, so environmental education has practical significance. In school, students, in addition to geography or natural science classes, should be engaged in various ecological hikes, nature walks, and organize planting trees around the school and activities aimed at saving water such as "Clean Territory," "Green Habitat," and "One Student — One Tree." By applying modern methods, these activities help develop ecological awareness and culture among schoolchildren. Local partnerships with Environmental Departments, forestry, and neighborhood activists should be established for meetings. A teacher in ecological education should not only impart knowledge but also serve as a nurturing example. The teacher's careful attitude toward nature is an important model for students. Preserving the animal and plant world in nature and increasing their numbers is of particular importance for national parks and reserves. It is worth noting that on January 11, World Wildlife Day, various events and roundtable discussions are held annually. In several districts of Kashkadarya Province, numerous roundtable discussions have been held to develop ecological culture. During these roundtables, students asked questions and shared opinions. There was lively dialogue on

issues such as protecting nature, planting trees, proper waste sorting, and not being indifferent to ecological problems.

In Shahrizabz city, Kashkadarya region, the 6th school held an event on the topic "What is ecological literacy and why is it necessary." The following ideas were expressed at the event. Environmental education and literacy are necessary to shape society's responsibility toward the environment. Today, environmental problems such as climate change, proper waste management, and saving water and energy resources are very relevant issues. Through ecological education, people.

- develop a conscious approach to nature conservation and natural resource management.

- learn to reduce and recycle waste.

- learn to live on the principles of sustainable development.

- learn to use green technologies and renewable energy sources. Thus, environmental education and environmental culture are an important factor in protecting the environment and directing it towards sustainable development. This, in turn, helps to create a clean and healthy living environment for schoolchildren.

Nikolaeva S.N. believes that "the formation of the foundations of the ecological culture of preschool and school-age children is the formation of a conscious correct attitude to nature."

In summary, we have repeatedly stressed the ecological characteristics of the Kashkadarya region; fostering ecological culture among school students is one of the priority tasks of modern education, ensuring that a person develops into ecologically conscious, morally mature, and socially responsible. The effective formation of ecological culture lies in the harmony of intellectual upbringing and scientific research processes. Intellectual upbringing develops the students' ability to systematically understand environmental problems, analyze them, recognize cause-and-effect relationships, and find creative solutions. Scientific inquiry, in turn, enriches their intellectual potential and serves to deepen ecological thinking.

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