

DEVELOPING LISTENING SKILL IN YOUNG LEARNERS WITH SIMON SAYS ACTIVITY

Jayliyeva Dilnoza Baxtiyor qizi

Termiz State university

jayliyevad@gmail.com

Annotation. This article focuses on using the popular "Simon Says" activity to develop active listening skills in young learners. The article discusses the importance of engaging activities that involve clear enunciation and contextualization of authentic materials to help children better understand and follow instructions. Repetition and feedback are also emphasized as essential factors for improving listening skills. The article also explores how technology can be used to enhance listening skills and provides practical strategies for teachers to incorporate technology in their teaching. Overall, this article provides valuable insights for educators looking to improve their young learners' listening skills through interactive and engaging activities such as "Simon Says".

Keywords: Active listening, Engaging activities, Simon says, Clear enunciation, Contextualization, Authentic materials, Repetition, Feedback.

Аннотация. В этой статье основное внимание уделяется использованию популярной игры «Саймон говорит» для развития навыков активного слушания у младших школьников. В статье обсуждается важность увлекательных занятий, которые включают четкое изложение и контекстуализацию аутентичных материалов, чтобы помочь детям лучше понять и следовать инструкциям. Повторение и обратная связь также подчеркиваются как важные факторы для улучшения навыков слушания. В статье также рассматривается, как можно использовать технологии для улучшения навыков слушания, и предлагаются практические стратегии для учителей по внедрению технологий в свое обучение. В целом, эта статья предоставляет ценную информацию для педагогов, стремящихся улучшить навыки слушания своих юных учеников с помощью интерактивных и увлекательных занятий, таких как "Simon says"

Ключевые слова: Активное слушание, Вовлекающие действия, Саймон говорит, Четкое изложение, Контекстуализация, Аутентичные материалы, Повторение, Обратная связь.

Introduction. The ability to actively listen is an essential skill that young learners need to develop. Engaging activities, such as the "Simon Says" game, can help children improve their listening skills while also making learning fun. In this article, we will explore how educators can use the popular "Simon Says" activity to develop active listening skills in young learners. We will discuss the importance of clear enunciation, contextualization of authentic materials, repetition, and feedback in improving listening skills in children. Additionally, we will explore how

technology can be used to enhance listening skills and provide practical strategies for educators to incorporate technology in their teaching. Clearly, this article aims to provide valuable insights and practical tips for educators looking to improve their young learners' listening skills through interactive and engaging activities such as the "Simon Says" game. Active listening is the ability to focus on and comprehend verbal messages being communicated by another person. In young learners, it is a crucial skill to develop as it enhances their ability to learn, communicate effectively, and build positive relationships with others.

Active listening involves not only hearing the words being spoken but also understanding their meaning, remembering them, and responding appropriately. For young learners, active listening skills are essential as they lay the foundation for their academic success and social development. Active listening helps them to better understand and retain information, follow directions, and engage in collaborative learning activities. Moreover, it can help them develop empathy, respect, and understanding towards others, leading to better communication and cooperation skills.

There are also another crucial terms which are related to developing listening skill in young learners. These are repetition and feedback.

To be more exactly, repetition helps young learners to develop their ability to recognize and understand the sounds and patterns of a new language. It also helps to reinforce key vocabulary and grammar structures. When young learners are exposed to the same language multiple times, they are more likely to remember it and develop their listening skills. Furthermore, feedback is important for young learners because it assists them to understand how well they are comprehending the language and what they need to do to improve. So, Teachers can provide feedback in many ways, such as correcting mistakes, asking questions, and providing guidance on how to improve listening skills. When young learners receive feedback, they are more likely to feel motivated to improve and to develop a better understanding of the language. Additionally, repetition and feedback can work together to enhance young learners' listening skills. For example, if a young learner listens to a recording multiple times, they may begin to understand more of the language with each repetition. If the teacher provides feedback on what they did well and what they can improve on, the young learner can apply that feedback to their listening skills during future repetitions.

Engaging activities are an essential aspect of teaching listening skills to young learners, as they help to make learning fun and encourage children to participate actively. One excellent example of an engaging activity for young learners is the "Simon Says" game. In this game, the teacher or facilitator gives instructions to the children, beginning each instruction with the phrase "Simon says." For example, "Simon says touch your nose." The children must follow the instructions only if they begin with the phrase "Simon says." If an instruction is given without this phrase, and a child follows it, they are out of the game. The last child standing is the winner. This game is engaging because it encourages active participation and

requires the children to listen carefully to the instructions. It also helps to develop their comprehension and memory skills, as they must remember the instructions and follow them in the correct order. Additionally, it can be customized to fit different themes or learning objectives, such as practicing vocabulary words or following multi-step directions. It can be said that "Simon Says" is an excellent example of an engaging activity that can be used to teach listening skills to young learners. It provides a fun and interactive way to develop their listening skills while promoting active participation and enjoyment in the learning process.

Methods. The popular game "Simon Says" was used to develop listening skills at school among young learners, and some methods were utilized for using this activity to enhance young learners' listening skills. Firstly, the game was introduced to the young learners. Explain the rules of the game, and provide an example of how it is played. It was started with simple commands, such as "Simon says touch your nose," or "Simon says jump up and down." These commands should be easy to understand and follow, so that the young learners can build their confidence and listening skills. Then, as the young learners become more comfortable with the game, gradually it was increased the complexity of the commands. For example, adjectives were added to the commands, such as "Simon says jump up and down five times," or "Simon says touch your nose with your left hand." Moreover, emphasizing listening also played significant role for the importance of listening by giving commands without saying "Simon says." If a learner performed an action without the "Simon says" prefix, they were out of the game. This reinforced the importance of listening and paying attention to the instructions. Lastly, some positive feedback was given to the young learners throughout the game by correcting mistakes, in order to develop good listening skill.

Results. The "Simon Says" activity was found an effective method for developing listening skills in young learners. To prove, actually it can be said that through repeated exposure to the game, young learners could improve their ability to comprehend and follow instructions. Also, they were able to learn to listen carefully to the commands, and respond appropriately.

Enhanced Vocabulary: The "Simon Says" game can also help young learners to develop their vocabulary. As the commands become more complex, learners are exposed to new words and phrases. By repeating these words and phrases, learners can begin to internalize them and use them in their own speech. Correspondingly, by the "Simon Says" game, young learners built their confidence in their ability to understand and follow instructions. As they successfully completed commands, they felt more confident in their listening skills, and are more likely to engage in other listening activities. Additionally, another effective result was that through repeated exposure to the game, learners improved their attention span, and learn to focus on specific details.

Discussion. It is believed that there are more disadvantages of using "Simon says" activity to improve listening skill in young learners. One of the cons of the

game may be limited complexity. The game may become repetitive and limited in its complexity over time, making it less challenging for older or more advanced learners. Also, lack of authenticity is shown as another disadvantage. The language used in the game may not reflect the authentic language that young learners will encounter in real-life situations, limiting the transferability of their listening skills to other contexts. Moreover, the game may be less effective in larger group sizes, as learners may struggle to hear the instructions or may not have an equal opportunity to participate. However, the article proved that the "Simon Says" activity can be an effective method for developing listening skills in young learners. Through repeated exposure to the game, learners can improve their comprehension, vocabulary, confidence, and attention span. The game provides immediate feedback to young learners, which can help them identify and correct mistakes and to be adapted to suit different cultures and languages, making it a versatile tool for teaching listening skills to young learners. Since the game is one of the engaging activities, it can be proved that while we are using engaging activities, clear enunciation and contextualization are considered as significant factors in improving listening skill. Clear enunciation refers to the ability of the teacher to pronounce words and phrases in a clear and understandable way. This is important for young learners because they are still developing their listening skills and may have difficulty understanding spoken language that is not enunciated clearly. When the teacher speaks clearly, it helps young learners to better comprehend the message being conveyed, leading to better learning outcomes. Contextualization means that the use of context to help young learners understand what is being said. This can be achieved through the use of visual aids, gestures, and other forms of non-verbal communication. Providing context helps young learners to better understand the meaning of words and phrases, and to make connections between what they hear and what they already know. It also helps them to retain the information they are learning. Therefore, both clear enunciation and contextualization are important in teaching listening to young learners as they help to improve comprehension and retention of information.

Conclusion. After analyzing the benefits and implications of using Simon Says game as a tool to develop listening skills in young learners, it can be concluded that this activity is an effective and enjoyable way to enhance children's ability to pay attention and follow instructions. By incorporating Simon Says into the classroom or home setting, teachers and parents can provide a fun and interactive environment for children to practice listening and develop their cognitive, social, and emotional skills. Furthermore, this activity can be easily adapted to different age groups and learning objectives, making it a versatile tool for educators and caregivers. It is important to note that while Simon Says game can be a valuable tool in fostering listening skills, it should not be the only method used to promote active listening. Teachers and parents should also provide opportunities for children to engage in meaningful conversations, practice turn-taking, and reflect on their listening experiences.

In summary, Simon Says game can be a powerful and engaging tool to promote listening skills in young learners, but it should be used in conjunction with other strategies to ensure a well-rounded and effective approach to developing listening skills.

References

1. "Developing Young Learners' Listening Comprehension Skills through Games" by Nur Faezah Mohd Sanif and Noraien Mansor, published in the English Language Teaching Journal.
2. "Improving listening skills through cooperative learning in young learners" by Amr M. El-Said, published in the Journal of Language and Linguistic Studies.
3. <https://readingeggs.com/articles/2015/07/08/listening-for-kids/>
4. <https://listenwise.com/developing-listening-skills-for-kids/>
5. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Simon_Says