



## Developing Life Skills In Primary School Students

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**Abstract:** This article discusses the development of life skills in primary school students, along with some key methods and approaches to effectively carry out this process.

**Keywords:** life skills, project-based learning, problem-based learning, self-management, collaboration, self-awareness, social and cultural competence, simulation, research.

The Importance of Developing Life Competencies in Primary School Students. Life competencies are a set of knowledge, skills, and abilities essential for a person's successful functioning in life. Developing these competencies in primary school students plays a crucial role in making the learning process more effective and meaningful.

How can life competencies be developed in primary school students? Here are some key methods and approaches to achieve this:

### 1. Project-Based Learning

This approach involves teaching students problem-solving through hands-on tasks and projects. Students are divided into groups, each given a real-life problem or project. They must plan, conduct research, and present their results. This fosters critical thinking and teamwork skills.

### 2. Problem-Based Learning

By solving complex problems, students develop critical thinking and creativity. Presenting them with challenging questions or situations encourages them to explore solutions. During this process, students engage in discussions and collaboratively seek answers, enhancing their problem-solving abilities.

### 3. Self-Management

Teaching students to manage their behavior and time is essential. They learn to plan their daily schedules, set goals, and work towards achieving them. Exercises in self-assessment and planning promote self-discipline and responsibility.

### 4. Collaboration and Teamwork

Introducing students to teamwork helps them develop social and cooperation skills. Students can reinforce their knowledge by teaching each other, for example, in subjects like math or language arts. Collaborative projects and



competitive games encourage them to work together, exchange ideas, and solve problems collectively.

#### 5. Self-Awareness and Self-Expression

It is vital to provide students opportunities to express their emotions, thoughts, and aspirations. Writing exercises, storytelling, debates, and art activities allow them to articulate and explore their feelings and ideas, promoting self-expression and creativity.

#### 6. Social and Cultural Competencies

Teaching students essential social skills helps them succeed in social environments. Activities to develop empathy and intercultural understanding foster respect and appreciation for diverse perspectives.

#### 7. Simulation and Role-Playing

Through simulating real-life situations, students develop social skills. For example, role-playing scenarios such as shopping in a store or visiting a bank helps them practice decision-making and communication in various contexts.

#### 8. Research Activities

Engaging students in research encourages them to acquire knowledge independently. They are given various topics to explore and present their findings, increasing their interest in learning.

Sample Assignments to Support These Methods:

##### 1. Math Problem

"Three identical full glasses of water weigh a total of 1410 grams. The same three glasses half-filled weigh 1020 grams. What is the weight of the water in one full glass, and what is the weight of an empty glass?"



Solution:

a)  $1410 : 3 = 470$

b)  $1020 : 3 = 340$

c)  $470 - 340 = 130$

d)  $130 \cdot 2 = 260$  grams (amount of water)

e)  $470 - 260 = 210$  grams (weight of the glass)



## 2. Pattern Recognition

"Identify the rule and find the time for the last clock in the sequence."



Solution:

a)  $11\text{h } 15\text{min} - 10\text{h } 5\text{min} = 1\text{h } 10\text{min}$

b)  $10\text{h } 5\text{min} - 8\text{h } 45\text{min} = 1\text{h } 20\text{min}$

c)  $8\text{h } 45\text{min} - 7\text{h } 15\text{min} = 1\text{h } 30\text{min}$

d)  $7\text{h } 15\text{min} - 1\text{h } 40\text{min} = 5\text{h } 35\text{min}$

Answer: 5h 35min.

## 3. Distance and Speed Problem

"Aziz walked for 24 minutes, then took a taxi and covered a distance four times longer than he walked. If the taxi drove eight times faster, how long did he ride in the taxi?"


Solution:

$$24 \cdot 4 = 96$$


$$96 : 8 = 12 \quad \text{Answer: 12 minut.}$$

## 4. Fraction Comparison

"Determine the smallest and largest parts in the following sets of fractions."

a) 

$\frac{2}{10}$        $\frac{4}{10}$        $\frac{3}{10}$        $\frac{1}{10}$

b) 

$\frac{1}{2}$        $\frac{1}{3}$        $\frac{1}{5}$        $\frac{1}{7}$

Solution:

Set A: smallest -  $\frac{1}{10}$ , largest -  $\frac{4}{10}$

Set B: smallest -  $\frac{1}{7}$ , largest -  $\frac{1}{2}$



5. If each cookie has the same thickness, which cookie used more dough?



Considering that each cookie is made with dough of the same thickness, determining which cookie used more dough depends on the surface area. The cookie with the larger surface area would require more dough.

Students can identify which cookie used more dough by estimating with their eyes or by using a ruler to

### Final Thoughts

Life skills, in fact, play a significant role in helping individuals succeed in all areas of life. Therefore, developing competencies such as self-improvement, self-management, communication skills, decision-making, and self-control is highly relevant today.

To instill life skills in primary school students, teachers should use innovative methods to ensure active participation. Through this, students not only gain knowledge but also develop essential skills for success in life.

The methodology for developing life skills in primary school students requires a creative approach from teachers. It is essential to choose each method according to the students' needs and abilities. This way, students not only acquire knowledge but also develop the necessary skills for success in life.

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