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THEORETICAL FOUNDATIONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF LIFE SKILLS IN SCHOOL STUDENTS BASED ON THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

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Annotation: This article examines the requirements of international assessment programs, such as PIRLS and PISA, and explores their significance in the development of life skills among school students. The study highlights how these assessment programs not only measure academic achievements but also play an important role in shaping essential competencies that students need to succeed in real-life situations. Additionally, the article discusses the use of intensive methods in the learning and assessment processes and their impact on enhancing students' practical abilities and critical thinking skills.

Keywords: PIRLS, PISA, life skills, intensive methods.

Introduction: In contemporary education, the development of life skills among school students has emerged as a key priority. Life skills, which encompass critical thinking, problem-solving, collaboration, and practical decision-making, are essential for students to succeed both academically and in real-life situations. This study focuses on intensive methods for cultivating these competencies within the school environment. Notably, international assessment programs such as PISA (Programme for International Student Assessment) and PIRLS (Progress in International Reading Literacy Study) play a crucial role as evaluative frameworks. These programs not only measure academic achievement but also provide valuable insights into students' ability to apply knowledge and skills effectively in practical contexts. By integrating intensive teaching and assessment strategies, educators can better support the holistic development of students' life skills.

Literature Review. Education plays a crucial role in shaping a new generation capable of fulfilling future social, economic, and professional responsibilities. In the global educational landscape, several international assessment programs are used to evaluate and improve the quality, level, and effectiveness of education. Among them are PISA (Programme for International Student Assessment), PIRLS (Progress in International Reading Literacy Study), and TIMSS (Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study). These international programs serve as key benchmarks and are widely applied in developed countries to enhance educational quality and learning outcomes. [1]

The primary objective of the PIRLS assessment program is to compare the reading comprehension levels of fourth-grade students across different countries and to identify differences in reading literacy among national education systems. According to the international definition, reading literacy refers to an individual's ability to understand, interpret, and use various written texts in order to participate fully in society and achieve personal goals. [2]

The PIRLS assessment program evaluates students' ability to apply their acquired knowledge to comprehend and analyze new information. The integration of PIRLS assessment requirements into the educational process leads to significant changes in educational content, contributes to the improvement of learning experiences, and enhances the effectiveness of teachers' instructional practices.

Furthermore, the analysis of PIRLS assessment results provides answers to critical pedagogical questions such as "What should be taught?", "Why should it be taught?", and "How should it be taught?". In the context of modern education, the PIRLS assessment program helps identify effective teaching strategies and methods that contribute to improving overall educational effectiveness

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Research Methodology. This article discusses international assessment programs and methods for developing life skills. Particular attention is given to interactive teaching methods and the use of digital technologies in the educational process.

Analysis and Results. Essentially, the management of educational quality begins with identifying the competencies that learners are expected to acquire as outcomes of the learning process. The PIRLS assessment program enhances students' active participation in learning, in which the role of the teacher is of decisive importance. In order to improve the effectiveness and quality of primary education and to achieve positive results in PIRLS assessments, it is necessary to select instructional and didactic materials as well as teaching technologies that correspond to the goals, objectives, and requirements of international assessment programs [3]. At the same time, students' abilities, general knowledge levels, comprehension skills, and interests must be taken into account.

Developing students' intellectual abilities, including thinking skills (cognitive and creative), memory, attention, learning capacity, subject-related knowledge, skills, and competencies, as well as fostering motivation for learning and the need for intellectual knowledge, understanding of nature, independent thinking, and cognitive principles, is of great importance [4]. Furthermore, it is essential to develop students' emotional competencies, including skills for managing emotions and psychological states, overcoming excessive anxiety, and fostering objective self-assessment. The development of willpower is also significant, such as cultivating goal orientation, overcoming fear, initiative, self-confidence, and self-regulation. Additionally, students should be taught to plan their activities, implement and monitor them effectively, and manage their learning processes, including maintaining attention, understanding assigned tasks, activating motivational needs, supporting independent learning, making necessary adjustments, and evaluating both the learning process and its outcomes.

Interactive teaching methods play a crucial role in engaging students in the learning process and making it more interesting and effective. By using these methods, teachers can ensure students' active participation in education. Digital presentation tools such as PowerPoint, Prezi, and Canva enable teachers to create visually engaging content that captures students' attention. These modern presentation tools enhance the learning experience by providing attractive and illustrative instructional materials.

Moreover, the use of digital technologies and various educational games in assessing students' knowledge yields highly positive results. Online learning platforms such as Kahoot!, Quizizz, and Edpuzzle facilitate the assessment of knowledge and encourage competition among students through game-based activities. Teachers can assess students' understanding through quizzes, interactive sessions, or discussions. Discussion boards and forums such as Padlet and Google Classroom serve as virtual spaces for students to express their opinions and engage in communication, thereby supporting idea exchange and collaborative learning.

The advantages of intensive and interactive methods include providing students with opportunities to express their ideas, which in turn increases their interest in learning. These methods foster independent learning habits, allowing students to learn at their own pace. In addition, such technologies promote teamwork by enabling students to exchange ideas and collaborate on projects. Modern technologies create broad opportunities for students to access education, while teachers gain new possibilities to assess, analyze, and improve students' learning activities through the effective use of digital tools.

Conclusion. In conclusion, teachers should employ instructional tools that encourage students' individual and collaborative work, as well as the development of critical and creative thinking skills. Conducting the learning process in an interactive and practical manner and linking learning activities to real-life contexts contribute significantly to the formation of students' life skills.

The development of life skills involves intensive methods that incorporate active, interactive, and practical aspects of the learning process. Such methods encourage students to make

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independent decisions in problem situations, generate innovative ideas, and think creatively. These methods include project-based learning, role-playing activities, fieldwork, and practical exercises. Through these approaches, students are prepared to apply their knowledge in practice, develop teamwork skills, and cultivate independent thinking

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