

Cultural Heritage Education in Preschools: Preschool Teachers' Perspectives

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Abstract : This paper presents a part of an ongoing study on preschool teachers' perspectives and pedagogical practices regarding cultural heritage education. Accordingly, this study is based on a quantitative survey. The study area is Türkiye, and the research participants are preschool teachers actively teaching in preschool education institutions. It is necessary to encourage children to understand the past and cultural heritage values at an early age. Moreover, raising awareness of cultural heritage in preschool children is crucial for recognising and preserving this heritage. Therefore, it is very important to provide people with cultural heritage knowledge at an early age, as the preschool period is a key factor in raising awareness of this issue. In the preschool education programme implemented in Türkiye, it is stated that cultural heritage education is important in early childhood and should be included in the programme. However, although it is stated that cultural heritage education should be included in the preschool education programme, it is not clearly stated which subjects will be included in the programme and what kind of practices will be carried out. Therefore, this study examines the perspectives and pedagogical practices of preschool teachers working in preschool education institutions toward cultural heritage education.

Keywords : cultural heritage, early childhood education, pedagogical practices, preschool teacher

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