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Fine Motor Skill Development Thanks to Kids Puzzles

By Chris Peace

Giving children a great way to entertain themselves can be the answer to many parents' prayers, especially on those rainy days when outdoor fun is out of the question. However, that still means parents must face the challenge of choosing enjoyable activities for their children and that can be a pretty significant challenge. However, if you want your children to be entertained while also developing those all important fine motor skills then choose kids puzzles.

Why are Fine Motor Skills Important?

These skills are sometimes known as pre-writing skills because they are critical in the development of your child's ability to hold and use a pencil or pen for writing. Developing these skills means giving a work out to the small muscles in the hand, specifically those around the thumb and first finger.

Although we often take the physical act of writing for granted, accomplishing this seemingly simple task means coordinating many muscle movements in the hand. You have to apply the right amount of pressure to the pencil while also moving your hand in ways that allow you to write something legible on paper. Thankfully, kids puzzles are around that can help children practice using these muscles appropriately.

Consequences of Not Having Good Fine Motor Skills

Without fine motor skills, children face a real challenge throughout their education. In most classrooms, these skills are going to be used over and over again during a single day. They not make writing possible but they are vital to other activities as well, including drawing and cutting with scissors.

Most children who do not develop good fine motor skills at a young age have poor handwriting ability. That can cause them to have poor grades in school when neatness is often counted as part of the grade and handwriting is a separate part of the curriculum. Plus, children may become discouraged by their lack of ability and develop a negative attitude towards school which could hurt them even more later in life.

Developing Fine Motor Skills

Thankfully, giving children kids puzzles at an early age can help them improve their fine motor skills and can help prevent most of these consequences. One of the best types of kids puzzles for this purpose are lacing cards. These types of kids puzzles require children to hold laces and move them through tiny holes in a card to re-create a design.

Building blocks and other types of kids puzzles can also be very important in improving the fine motor skills of your child. And, of course, you'll want to make sure he or she has plenty of colored pencils and other writing utensils to use for practice.

Kids Puzzles: the Right Choice

The best thing about kids puzzles is that you can give them to your children knowing they are going to help them improve these very important skills. However, you can also benefit from watching the happiness on your child's face as they enjoy the challenge of these kids puzzles.

Smalltime Child offers a great selection of Kids Puzzles, Children's Puzzles, & Puzzles for Kids. Check us out on the web at <http://www.smalltimechild.com>

Four Benefits of Kids Puzzles

By Chris Peace

We all know that our children need certain skills and abilities for success in the future. Without these basic traits, they could end up having trouble in school or even later in their careers. That's why as parents who are committed to providing the best opportunities for their children you'll be interested in learning why kids puzzles of all kinds are always a good choice for them.

Hand Eye Coordination

Being able to make our hands and eyes work together may seem easy to you and me but it isn't a skill we mastered without a great deal of practice. While many parents improved their hand eye coordination through video game playing, there are better ways to achieve the same results with our children, such as kids puzzles.

One example is building toys, such as the Medieval Castle Building Set from Smalltime Child. The set includes more than 100 pieces which children have to arrange in specific ways to create a castle. Each of those hand movements must be coordinated with what the child is seeing or the entire thing is going to fall apart. Continued practice using the set will further enhance the child's abilities.

Fine Motor Skills

Unlike gross motor skills which begin developing as soon as babies begin moving on their own, fine motor skills need more help. You can begin by giving your baby small toys which require gripping and other hand movements. However, when the child reaches the toddler stage you may want to begin introducing kids puzzles as a way to help hone these skills.

Why are fine motor skills important? For one, they are going to help your child develop the physical ability needed to hold a pen or pencil and write with it legibly. Drawing, playing an instrument, working with clay, and even playing some sports requires well developed fine motor skills and the foundation of those begins in early childhood.

Social Development

Regardless of the type of kids puzzles, social development is something that goes hand in hand with them in many cases. That's because building a medieval castle, connecting rhyming words, and finishing images with laces are great activities to do with others.

Cognitive Abilities

When we're talking about kids puzzles, we're talking about one of the best tools available to help improve your child's cognitive abilities starting at an early age. Cognitive abilities, including problem-solving and reasoning, are going to be essential throughout your child's life. Without them, he or she is likely to face an uphill battle in school, in the workforce, and in every other aspect of his or her life. That's not something most of us want for our children.

With kids puzzles, children are forced to make connections and to determine how to solve problems.

They see relationships in the kids puzzles that help them find a solution. By giving your child these kids puzzles, you'll be able to see real improvement in these abilities and will help set your child on the right path for a bright future.

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