

## DEVELOPMENT OF COHERENT SPEECH IN CHILDREN WITH SPEECH IMPAIRMENTS BASED ON FAIRY TALE THERAPY

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### **Annotation**

This work examines the role of fairy tale therapy in developing coherent speech in children with speech impairments. Fairy tale therapy is considered an effective psycho-pedagogical tool that contributes to expanding vocabulary, strengthening grammatical structures, and forming logically consistent speech. The study analyzes the stages of working with fairy tales, their types, and practical methods used in speech therapy practice. Special attention is given to the corrective potential of fairy tale-based activities in working with children who have speech disorders.

### **Keywords**

Speech impairment, coherent speech, fairy tale therapy, general speech underdevelopment (GSD), speech therapy, vocabulary development, grammar structure, corrective pedagogy, fairy tale, speech development.

### **Introduction**

In recent years, speech development disorders among preschool and early school-age children have become one of the most relevant issues in both pedagogy and speech therapy practice. Children diagnosed with speech impairments, particularly those with general speech underdevelopment (GSD), often experience difficulties not only in pronunciation but also in constructing coherent and logically organized speech. They struggle to express their thoughts sequentially, use appropriate vocabulary, and build grammatically correct sentences.

In such cases, alongside traditional speech therapy methods, there is a growing need for innovative and emotionally engaging approaches that can motivate children to participate actively in the learning process. One of the most effective methods is fairy tale therapy. It is a pedagogical approach that uses fairy tales as a natural and emotionally rich tool to develop speech. Through fairy tales,

children not only improve listening comprehension but also learn to retell stories, organize events in sequence, and develop creative thinking skills.

Fairy tale-based activities allow children to become emotionally involved in the story, which significantly increases their speech activity. The process of working with fairy tales transforms speech development from a formal task into an interesting and interactive experience. As a result, children overcome psychological barriers, become more confident, and show greater willingness to communicate.

In fairy tale therapy, speech development is carried out in several interconnected directions: expanding vocabulary, strengthening grammatical structures, and forming coherent speech. Each of these aspects is developed through different stages of work with fairy tales, including listening, analysis, retelling, and creative storytelling.

Therefore, fairy tale therapy is considered not only a pedagogical method but also an effective psycho-corrective tool that plays an important role in overcoming speech development difficulties in children.

### **Main part**

Working with children who have speech impairments shows that developing coherent speech is a complex and gradual process that requires a systematic pedagogical approach. Such children often experience difficulties in expressing thoughts in a logical and sequential manner, constructing grammatically correct sentences, and selecting appropriate words. Therefore, alongside traditional speech therapy exercises, it is important to use emotionally engaging and child-centered methods. Fairy tale therapy is one of the most effective approaches in this regard, as it naturally combines learning with imagination and emotional involvement.

Fairy tale therapy does not present language learning as a forced task; instead, it turns it into a meaningful and enjoyable process. While listening to fairy tales, children become emotionally involved in the story, identify with the characters, and gradually absorb speech patterns. Repetitive phrases and traditional сюжет structures help strengthen grammatical and lexical skills. At the same time, fairy tales significantly enrich a child's vocabulary, as they contain expressive, figurative, and emotionally colored words that are rarely used in everyday speech.

From a linguistic perspective, fairy tales also support the development of grammatical competence. The sequential structure of events, cause-and-effect relationships, and dialogues provide a natural model for sentence construction. When retelling a fairy tale, a child learns to organize events in a logical order such as "first," "then," and "finally," which is essential for developing coherent speech. This is particularly important for children with speech impairments, as they often lack this structural organization in their speech.

Fairy tale therapy is implemented through several stages, starting from listening and comprehension, followed by discussion, retelling, and finally independent story creation. At the initial stage, the child listens to or visually observes the fairy tale to develop interest and understanding. In the next stage, the content is discussed, focusing on characters' actions and motivations, which encourages thinking and verbal expression. Then the child retells the story in their own words, improving memory, grammar, and speech coherence. At the highest stage, the child creates new stories or modifies existing ones, which enhances creativity and independent speech production.

Various exercises are also used in fairy tale therapy practice. For example, continuing a story encourages independent thinking, speaking in the role of a character develops expressive speech, mixing different fairy tales stimulates creativity, and constructing stories based on pictures strengthens logical sequencing. These activities make speech development engaging and interactive.

Overall, fairy tale therapy is a comprehensive and effective tool for developing coherent speech in children with speech impairments. It supports not only linguistic skills but also cognitive and emotional development, making the learning process natural and enjoyable.

### **Conclusion**

The development of coherent speech in children with speech impairments is a complex pedagogical process that requires a consistent and systematic approach. These children often have difficulties in expressing complete, logical, and sequential thoughts, which affects their communication skills. Therefore, fairy tale therapy holds a special place in speech therapy practice as an effective and accessible tool.

Research results indicate that fairy tale-based activities positively influence vocabulary expansion, grammatical development, and logical thinking. Listening to fairy tales, discussing them, retelling, and creating new stories gradually increase a child's speech activity. In particular, the ability to describe events in a logical sequence and explain characters' actions contributes to the formation of coherent speech components.

Furthermore, fairy tale therapy not only develops speech but also positively affects the child's emotional state. Emotional attachment to fairy tale characters increases interest, confidence, and active participation. This creates a positive attitude toward speech activities and encourages free expression of thoughts.

Practical observations show that fairy tale therapy is most effective when used as part of a comprehensive speech therapy approach. It complements traditional methods and makes them more engaging and natural for children.

In conclusion, fairy tale therapy is an effective method for developing coherent speech in children with speech impairments, both from pedagogical and psychological perspectives. It helps children express thoughts consistently, connect events logically, and enrich their speech. Therefore, its wide application in speech therapy practice is highly important in reducing speech development difficulties.

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