

A LIFETIME INVESTMENT

by:
Bernadette M. Medina

Every parent dreams of success and happiness for their children. Because of this, many are committed to providing all the support they can give, ensuring access to quality education, and opening doors of opportunities for the development of their child's talents and skills. However, many are unaware of just how prominent and beneficial early childhood education is for the personal growth and future of the children.

The early years of a child's life are a crucial period of learning how to interact with people, including their teachers, their peers, their parents, and others (Alvarado, 2019). Early childhood is the time to build the foundations of character, morals, beliefs, values, and ethics of a child. The guidance provided by parents and peers during this period holds a lasting impact on the child's path and attitude towards life. In most cases, children who were allowed to explore and engage in learning, play, sports, music, and other developmental activities are more inclined to voice out and pursue their interests and passion. Furthermore, parental involvement and the initiative of early childhood educators to get to know their students work hand in hand in building their confidence. Another essential skill developed through early childhood education is people skills. People skills are the ability to form healthy social relations, engage in meaningful conversations, and be perceptive of the situation. It is imperative that children gain the confidence to interact with other people, and build friendships, trust, and a sense of leadership and teamwork. These are all necessary not only in their educational years but for their professional careers in the future.

A handful of professionals also stress that the development of social, emotional, and cognitive skills of children are more important than technical skills alone. While experiences in life help shape who we become, our core values instilled during our early years still determine how we tackle life's problems and persevere towards achieving our goals. Efforts and resources poured into the education of children during their formative early childhood is a lifetime investment that can mean all the difference for their holistic development and future.

References:

H. (2020, June 15). The Importance And Benefits Of Early Childhood Education. Hedge Think - Digital Meeting Place for Fund Managers and Investors.

<https://www.hedgethink.com/importance-benefits-early-childhood-education/#:~:text=%20The%20Importance%20Of%20Early%20Childhood%20Education%20,able%20to%20learn%20a%20great%20deal...%20More%20marketing>.

(2022, August 1). Why Is Early Childhood Education Important? National University. <https://www.nu.edu/blog/why-is-early-childhood-education-important/>

Walden University. (2021, March 25). What's the Importance of Early Childhood Education? <https://www.waldenu.edu/online-masters-programs/ms-in-early-childhood-studies/resource/what-is-the-importance-of-early-childhood-education>