Finding the Education in Educational Technology with Early Learners

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Keywords:
Education
Technology
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Quotations:

“Experiences with technology can pave the way for unprecedented learning opportunities. However, without an education component, technology cannot reach its full potential for supporting children’s learning and development” (McManis & Gunnewig, 2012, p. 14).

“Research shows that computer use supports and increases young children’s skills in the social, cognitive, language, literacy, writing, and mathematical realms” (McManis & Gunnewig, 2012, p. 15).

“There is growing recognition of the importance of incorporating technology in meaningful and authentic ways into the curriculum and day-to-day practices, and of the teacher’s crucial role in the full development and use of technology in the early childhood classroom” (McManis & Gunnewig, 2012, p. 22).

“Adult guidance for children using computers is associated with increases in abstract reasoning, planning behavior, visual-motor coordination, and visual memory” (McManis & Gunnewig, 2012, p. 15).

Summary:

This article was about the use of technology in classrooms of early learners. The article talks about how technology can be found in many forms in the classroom. These forms can range from computers, laptops, tablets, and smart boards. The article explained some criteria that the technology must meet. The first is that it must be successfully integrated into the classroom and curriculum. The next is that it must be developmentally appropriate for the age and grade of the children. Lastly, the technology must include tools to help the teachers to successfully implement the technology (McManis & Gunnewig, 2012, p. 14). These three criteria are very important to the children that you will be using the technology
with. They need to be able to complete the activity and teachers must be able to put it into their everyday plans and use the technology to its full extent. The article then goes on to talk about the potential for use in the classroom and how it impacts the children using the technology. The impacts include literacy, mathematics, social skills, language, and writing (McManis & Gunnewig, 2012, p. 15). The remainder of the article talks about different evaluation and analyzing techniques as well as the value, integration, and an example classroom.