Introduction in Preschool System of Early Childhood Education - III

Introduction to Early Childhood Care and Education
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Kindergarten in United States

- In the United States, kindergartens are usually part of the K-12 educational system. It is only one school-year.
- Children usually attend kindergarten around age 5 to 6. Kindergarten is considered the first year of formal education, although the child may have gone to preschool or Pre-K (formerly nursery school).
- While kindergarten was viewed as a separate part of the elementary program, it is now fully integrated into the school system and is a full participant in schooling, except that in many places it is only offered for half-a-day.
- Depending on the state, children may be required to attend their kindergarten year because compulsory schooling laws in many states begin at age 5.
- In other states, compulsory laws begin at 6 or 7, although these states still offer free kindergarten. In practice, 43 states require their school districts to offer a kindergarten year.
"High/Scope Learning" is a style of learning that is used in many kindergartens in the United States. This learning style is very interactive and requires a great deal of the children and the teacher.

It employs a "plan, do, review" approach which enables children to take responsibility for their learning. First the children "plan" their activities.

The teacher provides choices of activities for the children which are age-appropriate and initiate learning, whether through problem solving, reading, language, mathematics, manipulatives, etc.

This planning takes place, usually, when the children walk in the classroom. Then they "do" their activity. Some of these activities include such things as a water table, building blocks, a creative dance area, "dress up" area, a reading area, and a drawing table.
Kindergarten in United States

- The majority of the children's time is spent in this "do" activity. The last part of this approach is the review part.
- This is where the children and the teacher go over what they have done that day. This can be done in a large group, especially if there is a theme for the day that is used in all activities, or individually.
- The children discuss what they did and how they liked it and what they learned from it. This high/scope learning has grown in popularity and is accepted largely because it allows for the children to be responsible for their own learning.
Kindergarten in United States

- Compulsory schooling laws were adopted before the widespread provision of kindergarten or preschool.
- In some states, it is not required for children to attend kindergarten. Mandatory age of enrollment varies by state between 5 and 8.
- Generally, in all states, a child may begin kindergarten in the fall term only if age 5 by a state-set date, usually in the summer or fall.
- If they are older than 5 in a non-mandatory state, then they will be directly placed into first grade for compulsory education, even if they have not attended kindergarten.
Kindergarten in United Kingdom

- The term kindergarten is rarely used in Britain to describe pre-school education; pre-schools are usually known as nursery schools or playgroups.
- However, the word "kindergarten" is used for more specialist organisations such as forest kindergartens, and is sometimes used in the naming of private nurseries that provide full-day child care for working parents.
- In the UK children have the option of attending nursery at the ages of three or four years, before compulsory education begins.
- Before that, less structured childcare is available privately. The details vary slightly between Scotland, England, Wales, and Northern Ireland.
Kindergarten in United Kingdom

- Some nurseries are attached to state infant or primary schools, but many are provided by the private sector. The government provides funding so that all children from the age of three until they start compulsory school, can receive five sessions per week of two and a half hours each, either in state-run or private nurseries.

- Working parents can also spend £55 per week free of income taxes, which is typically enough to pay for one or two days per week.

- The Scottish Government defines its requirements of nursery schools in the Early Years Framework and the Curriculum for Excellence. Each school interprets these with more or less independence (depending on their management structure), but must satisfy the Care Commission in order to retain their license to operate.

- The curriculum aims to develop:
  - Successful Learners
  - Confident Individuals
  - Responsible Citizens
  - Effective Contributors
Kindergarten in United Kingdom

- Nursery forms part of the Foundation Stage of education. In the 1980s England and Wales officially adopted the Northern Irish system whereby children start school either in the term or year in which they will become five depending on the policy of the Local Education Authority.

- In Scotland, schooling becomes compulsory between the ages of 4½ and 5½ years, depending on their birthday (school starts in August for children who were 4 by the end of the preceding February).

- The first year of compulsory schooling is known as Reception in England, Dosbarth Derbyn in Welsh and Primary One in Scotland and Northern Ireland.
While many public kindergartens and preschools exist in Taiwan, private kindergartens and preschools are also quite popular. Many private preschools offer accelerated courses in various subjects to compete with public preschools and capitalize on public demand for academic achievement. Curriculum at such preschools often encompasses subject material such as science, art, physical education and even mathematics classes. The majority of these schools are part of large school chains, which operate under franchise arrangements. In return for annual fees, the chain enterprises may supply advertising, curriculum, books, materials, training, and even staff for each individual school.
Kindergarten in Taiwan

- There has been a huge growth in the number of privately owned and operated English immersion preschools in Taiwan since 1999.
- These English immersion preschools generally employ native English speaking teachers to teach the whole preschool curriculum in an ‘English only’ environment.
- The legality of these types of schools has been called into question on many occasions, yet they continue to prosper. Some members of Taiwanese society have raised concerns as to whether local children should be placed in English immersion environments at such a young age, and have raised fears that the students abilities in their mother language may suffer as a result.
- The debate continues, but at the present time, the market for English Immersion Preschools continues to grow.
Kindergarten in Mexico

- In Mexico, kindergarten is called "kindergarten" or "kínder," with the last year sometimes referred to as "preprimaria" (primaria is the name given to grades 1 through 6, so the name literally means "prior to elementary school").

- It consists of three years of pre-school education, which are mandatory before elementary school.

- Previous nursery is optional, and may be offered in either private schools or public schools.
Kindergarten in Mexico

- At private schools, kindlers usually consist of three grades, and a fourth one may be added for nursery.
- The fourth one is called maternal. It goes before the other three years and is not obligatory.
- While the first grade is a playgroup, the other two are of classroom education.
- The kindergarten system in Mexico was developed by professor Rosaura Zapata (1876–1963), who received the country's highest honor for that contribution.
- In 2002, the Congress of the Union approved the Law of Obligatory Pre-schooling, which already made pre-school education for three to six-year-olds obligatory, and placed it under the auspices of the federal and state ministries of education.
Kindergarten in Morocco

- In Morocco, pre-school is known as école maternelle, Kuttab, or Ar-Rawd.
- State-run, free maternelle schools are available throughout the kingdom, welcoming children aged from 2 to 5 (although in many places, children under 3 may not be granted a place).
- It is not compulsory, yet almost 80% of children aged 3 to 5 attend. It is regulated by the Moroccan department of education.
Kindergarten in Nepal

- In Nepal, kindergarten is simply known as "kindergarten". Kindergarten is run as a private education institution and all the privately run educational institutions are in English medium.
- So, kindergarten education is also in English medium in Nepal.
- The children start attending kindergarten at the age of 2 until they are at least 5 years old.
- The kindergartens in Nepal have following grades:
  - 1. Nursery/ Playgroup: 2- to 3-year-old children
  - 2. Lower Kindergarten/ LKG: 3- to 4-year-old children
  - 3. Upper Kindergarten/ UKG: 4- to 5-year-old children
Kindergarten in Nepal

- The kindergarten education in Nepal is almost similar to that of Hong Kong and India.
- All the books in private education institution are in English except one compulsory Nepali.
- Children are trained perfectly in Nepalese kindergartens.
Kindergarten in Netherlands

- In the Netherlands, the equivalent term to kindergarten is kleuterschool. From the mid-19th century to the mid-20th century the term Fröbelschool was also common, after Friedrich Fröbel.

- However this term gradually faded in use as the verb Fröbelen gained a slight derogatory meaning in everyday language. Until 1985, it used to be a separate non-compulsory form of education (for children aged 4–6 years), after which children (aged 6–12 years) attended the primary school (lagere school).

- After 1985, both forms were integrated into one, called basisonderwijs (Dutch for primary education). The country also offers both private and subsidized daycares, which are non compulsory, but nevertheless very popular.
Kindergarten in Peru

- In Peru, the term nido refers to the schooling children attend from 3 to 6 years of age. It is followed by primary school classes, which last for six years.
- Some families choose to send their children to primary school at the age of 6.
- In 1902 the teacher Elvira Garcia and Garcia co-founder of the Society cited above, organized the first kindergarten for children 2 to 8 years old, Fanning annex to the Lyceum for ladies.
- Her studies and concern for children led her to spread through conferences and numerous documents, the importance of protecting children early and to respond to the formation of a personality based on justice and understanding, as well as the use of methods Fröbel and from Montessori and participation of parents in this educational task.
Kindergarten in Philippines

- In the Philippines, education officially starts at the Elementary level and placing children into early childhood education through kindergarten is optional to parents. Early Childhood Education in the Philippines are classified into:
  - Center-based programs, such as the Barangay day care service, public and private pre-schools, kindergarten or school-based programs, community or church-based early childhood education programs initiated by nongovernment organizations or people's organizations, workplace-related child care and education programs, child-minding centers, health centers and stations; and
  - Home-based programs, such as the neighborhood-based play groups, family day care programs, parent education and home visiting programs.
- Early childhood education is strengthened through the creation of Republic Act No. 8980 or the Early Childhood Care and Development Act of 2000.
In Romania, grădiniţă, which means "little garden" is the favored form of education for preschool (under-6 or under-7) children.

The children are divided in "little group" (grupa mică age 3–4), "medium group" (grupa mijlocie age up to 5) and "big group" (grupa mare up to 6 or 7).

In the last few years, private kindergartens have become popular, supplementing the state preschool education system.
Kindergarten in Singapore

- Kindergartens in Singapore provide up to three years of pre-school programs for children aged between three and six.
- The three-year program, known as nursery, kindergarten 1 (K1) and kindergarten 2 (K2) prepares children for their first year in primary school education.
- Some kindergartens further divide nursery into N1 and N2.
Kindergarten in Sudan

- Kindergarten in Sudan is divided into private and public kindergarten.
- Preschool is compulsory in Sudan.
- The proper Kindergarten age spans from 3–6 years.
- The curriculum covers Arabic, Religion, English, Mathematics and more.

Kindergartens and preschool
Question?