

PLAY

21.1. Vocabulary

Ex. 1. Match the words with their Russian equivalents.

1. participation	a. независимый
2. development	b. структурированная игра
3. game	c. игра
4. left out	d. вовлекать
5. friendship	e. творческий; воображаемый
6. involve	f. важный; ключевой
7. structured play	g. участие
8. play	h. неструктурированная игра
9. crucial	i. игра
10. imaginative	j. развитие
11. unstructured play	k. дружба
12. independent	l. оставшийся в стороне

Ex. 2. Complete the sentences with the given words:

involve, unstructured, imaginative, independent, participation, out, friendships, crucial, development, structured

The teacher's guidance is _____(1) in organizing playtime at school for students.

The _____(2) of social skills can be seen during recess when children interact with their peers.

Building _____(3) with classmates is an important aspect of playing at school.

Many children enjoy participating in _____(4) games during recess.

_____ (5) play allows students to explore their interests on their own.

During recess, it is important to _____(6) all students in group games.

No child should be left _____(7) during structured play activities at school.

Active _____(8) in games and sports helps students develop teamwork skills.

_____ (9) play sessions are essential for promoting healthy physical activity among students.

_____ (10) playtime provides students with the freedom to choose their own games and activities.

21.2. Reading

Ex. 1. Read the text.

The Importance of Playing At School

Playing is crucial to a child's development. It is through play that children learn about the world around them, develop important skills, and form relationships with others. This is why it is so important for children to have opportunities to play at school.

One of the main benefits of playing at school is that it helps children build social skills and form friendships. When children play together, they learn how to take turns, share, and cooperate with others. They also learn how to resolve conflicts and negotiate with their peers. These are all important skills that will help them succeed in school and in life.

Playing at school also provides children with an opportunity to practice what they have learned in the classroom. For example, if they have been learning about numbers and counting, they can practice these skills during a game of hopscotch or tag. They can also use their imaginations to create new games and activities based on what they have learned. This type of play is not only fun, but it also helps children deepen their understanding of the concepts they are learning.

Another benefit of playing at school is that it helps children become more independent and confident. When children engage in unstructured play, they have the freedom to make their own decisions and solve problems on their own. This helps them develop important life skills such as critical thinking, creativity, and resilience. It also gives them a sense of autonomy and control over their own lives.

Unfortunately, many schools today do not provide enough opportunities for children to play. With the increased emphasis on academics and standardized testing, recess and free play time have been reduced or eliminated in many schools. This is a mistake. Research has shown that regular participation in physical activity and play is not only essential for children's health and well-being, but it also improves their academic performance. It is important for educators, parents, and

policymakers to recognize the value of play and to ensure that all children have access to high-quality play experiences at school.

Ex. 2. *Answer the questions.*

1. How does playing at school help children build social skills and form friendships?
2. In what ways can children practice what they have learned in the classroom through play at school?
3. What benefits do children gain from engaging in unstructured play at school?
4. Why is it important for children to have opportunities for free play at school?
5. How has the emphasis on academics and standardized testing impacted playtime in schools according to the text?
6. What role do educators, parents, and policymakers play in ensuring that children have access to high-quality play experiences at school?
7. How does play contribute to children's overall development and well-being based on the information provided in the text?