

Perception of Teacher Candidates with Regard to Use of Theatre and Drama Applications in Education

Fulya Topcuoglu Unal*

*Faculty of Education, Dumlupinar University, Department of Turkish Language Education,
Kutahya, 43100, Turkey
E-mail: fulyatopcuoglu@hotmail.com*

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ABSTRACT The goal of this study is to identify the perception of mother tongue teachers with regard to the use of theatre and drama in education. In light of this goal, 35 teacher candidates trained in Kutahya Dumlupinar University in the academic year of 2012-2013 were selected as samples. Phenomenology pattern was used in the study as one of the qualitative research patterns, where a survey of 20 open ended questions was used as data collection technique, and the data was analyzed with content analysis. According to the findings of the research, use of theatre or drama in education is shown as the most important reasons for building self-esteem in students and a permanent education for the same. Apart from these, it is also declared that they provide cooperation between students, develop lingual skills and especially speaking skills, they teach how to establish empathy, increase courage, socialize the individual, and strengthen communication. It is also stated as an entertaining and powerful visual art on its own. For these reasons, Theatre and Drama Applications or courses with similar applications should be frequently used in all fields of education.