

## Effects of Parental Involvement on Pre-schoolers Academic Performance: A Case Study of Some Selected Schools in Jigawa State, Nigeria

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Article history	ABSTRACT
Upload : February 24, 2025 Revised : March 19, 2025 Accepted : March 26, 2025 Publish : March 27, 2025	The essence of education in human life is very emphatic. Education or training of human in the course of life begins formally at a stage known as preschool, where kids are enrolled to be coach about the upcoming requirements of life and learning.
<b>Keywords:</b> academic performance, children, early childhood education, education, Jigawa, parental involvement	The significance of this level of learning or training called early childhood education or care is very impressive. Therefore, this study was carried out to investigate the effects of parental involvement on the academic performance of preschoolers in some selected schools in Ringim Local Government Area, Jigawa State, Nigeria. In terms of methods, a total of 30 preschoolers were selected, therewith, divided as two study groups: Group A (test group) and Group B (control group). Therein, the results revealed that, the children who had previously received parental involvement (according to their records) scored higher mean marks ( $1009 \pm 49$ ) compared to those children who did not receive parental involvement ( $617 \pm 26$ ). In light of the revealing from the findings, it can be concluded that, indeed parental involvement has a significant impact on the academic performance of preschoolers. Ways of ensuring that parent pay more attention to their children at preschools or early child care education shall be devised.

### INTRODUCTION

Children are gift that humans shall protect through giving them required education. The education for the proper making of children begins early in life course and the key role pf parents in ensuring children are educated is emphatic ([Khan, 2024](#)). Education is a common right that should be accorded to all children from all parts of the world. Education is a treasure of societies, individuals, and groups, that is overwhelmingly important in all human civilizations. Educating children is important in order to elicited them with positive changes such as ability to acquire knowledge, behaviors, and achievements ([Adejoke, 2019](#); [Rabia et al., 2023](#); [Sarkingobir et al., 2023](#)). Pre-schooling is an activity or type of education otherwise describe as early childhood education and development or care. It is an envelope of all processes that allow children (from birth to nine years or relations) to thrive, develop, grow, and rise properly in terms of physical, emotional, mental, moral, social, and related wellbeing and parameters ([Bridgemohan, 2001](#); [Dereli & Kurtca, 2022](#)). Early childhood education or care aid smoothly transition to primary education, language and communication skills, personal hygiene behaviors, socialization, etc ([Musa et al., 2017](#)).

The aim of early childhood education is to provide young children with a solid foundation for future learning, socialization, and emotional development. This period, typically spanning from birth to age eight, is critical in shaping a child's cognitive, linguistic, social, emotional, and physical development. Early childhood education aims to foster a love for learning, promote social skills, and encourage emotional intelligence, thereby laying the groundwork for future academic success and personal well-being ([Yawinda et al., 2021](#); [Lemea-Adoma, 2024](#)). The importance of early childhood education cannot be overstated. During this period, children's brains are most receptive to new experiences, and their learning processes are most flexible. Early childhood education provides a stimulating environment that promotes exploration, discovery, and creativity, which are essential for healthy brain development ([Navarro-Cruz & Luscheri, 2018](#); [Rotshak et al., 2020](#)). Moreover, early childhood education helps children develop essential life skills, such as communication, problem-solving, and conflict resolution, which are critical for future personal and professional success ([Ansari et al., 2019](#)). Furthermore, early childhood education plays a critical role in bridging the gap between disadvantaged and advantaged children. Research has shown that high-quality early childhood education can help level the playing field, providing disadvantaged children with the skills and knowledge necessary to compete with their more advantaged peers. This, in turn, can help break the cycle of poverty and promote social mobility ([Akinrotimi & Olowe, 2016](#); [Viscovic, 2021](#)).

Mostly, many children begin life from the family environment, therefore this environment which is provided by the parents play key role in shaping the life of children ([Dereli & Kurtca, 2022](#)). In the course of education of any country, parents are very significant and act as role models and actors in the learning interactions. Parents play very significant role in their wards on all endeavors, let alone in education. Parents are globally considered as the most calming and enduring educators of children. The children or young people depend on their parents and families and copy from them. The mother of any child serve as his (or her) pioneer teacher; likewise, a father is a forefront teacher and supporter of his child; and the parents effects are long-lasting either positively or negatively. Therefore, the norm or belief of many people that education is only delivered by teachers has to be changed to a befitting ideal that requires varied types of parental involvement in education to aid the system ([Mpekethu et al., 2020](#); [Hayakawa, M. et al., 2013](#)).

Parental involvement is described as a mixture of commitment and participation of parents in the schooling of their children, that in turn affect the academic performance in one way or the other pertaining the children or child ([Adejoke, 2019](#)). Some authors defined parental involvement as supporting the early childhood education in children's learning or care. It is a situation whereby parents are participating in growth, development, and preschool activities of children ([Srinavasacharlu, 2024](#); [Nakijoba, R. et al., 2024](#)). Parental involvement in education aid productivity, collaborations, encourage achievement, effective supervision, effective management, etc ([Bridgemohan, 2001](#); [Erdem, C. & Kaya, M., 2020](#)). Ekinici-Vural & Dogan-Altun ([2020](#)) describe parental involvement in education as any form of participation of parents in their children's

education. It involves collaborations, connection, interactions, supporting, aiding, reporting, that occur between schools, children, and parents. The objective of this study was to investigate the effects of parental involvement on the academic performance of preschoolers in some selected schools in Ringim Local Government Area, Jigawa State, Nigeria.

However, the research questions for this study are as follows:

1. What are the sociodemographic characteristics of preschoolers in some selected schools in Ringim Local Government Area, Jigawa State, Nigeria?
2. What are the effects of parental involvement on the academic performance of preschoolers in some selected schools in Ringim Local Government Area, Jigawa State, Nigeria?

## METHOD

This study is an interventional study indeed. From the records of students who have being participants in various activities of early childhood education (demonstrating strong or much parental involvement) in 5 various schools in Ringim Local Government, 15 students were selected as test or Group A and coached therewith observed for one week, and at the end an assessment was done and recorded. In this study there are two groups. Group A are 15 children that are proven from records of their schools that their parents show strong or much parental involvement in their preschool education; therewith, the other group (B) consist of 15 children whose parents how poor or low parental involvement (as denoted by their school records of their parents). These two groups were basically selected for this study and they were coached for a period of one week using a preformed lesson note and lesson plan about personal hygiene. The assessment totally earns 100 marks for every student (preschooling child) and mean was calculated for the whole test group. The assessment involves indices showing cognitive, behavioral, emotional, and social impact of learning upon the children as developed by the researchers.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Characteristics of The Participants of the Study

Results for this study are indicated in tables 1 and 2.

Table 1. Sociodemographic Characteristics of the Participants

Characteristic	Frequency	Percentage
<b>Sex</b>		
Male	20	66.7
Female	10	33.3
<b>Religion</b>		
Islam	30	100.0
Christianity	0	0
<b>Tribe</b>		
Hausa	16	53.3
Fulani	14	46.7
Yoruba	0	0.0
Igbo	0	0.0

The results in table 1 show the sociodemographic characteristics of the preschooling children involved in this study. The children's involved are 100.0% Muslims, 66.7% males, 33.3% females, 53.3% Hausa, and 46.7% Fulani.

Table 2. Effects of Parental Involvement on Pre-schoolers Academic Performance

Participants	Total number	Mean marks ± Standard deviation	Chi-square	Remarks
Group A/Test (students with parents showing good and reasonable parental involvement)	15	1009 ± 49	110.01	Significant
Group B/Control (Students without much parental involvement)	15	617 ± 26	132.1	Significant
Total	30			

Children are special grace accorded to us by Almighty God and one of the major responsibility of parents and families is to ensure that the children are well-educated on the various aspects of life. Learning begins at early ages in order to guide the children against evil forces in the environment ([Khan, 2024](#)). Early childhood education delivers sorts of long-term benefits, for instance, improved academic achievement, more academic achievement, reduced crime rates, and as well increased economic productivity. Indeed, an investment in early childhood education is equivalent to laying an essential and strong foundation that comes before building a brighter future for learning, and as well promoting and overall well-being of families, children, and society in general ([Abosedede, 2017](#); [Mad, S. H., & Mohamed, S., 2023](#)). Additionally, the early childhood education was set-up to ensure multifaceted and far-reaching objectives such as providing young children with a solid foundation that assist dearly in future learning, personal hygiene, socialization, emotional development; therewith, early childhood education breed a good before laden with academic success, dignity, personal well-being, and as well social mobility ([Adewale, 2022](#); [Srinavasacharlu, 2024](#)). Parental involvement in education is the strategy of ensuring participation, and engagement of parents in their children's educational dealings and experiences. Parental involvement takes various degrees such as regular communication with teachers, aiding children with home assignments, volunteering in the classroom or school, supporting home-learning, and engaging in parent-teacher organizations or associations ([Bridgemohan, 2001](#); [Naeem, S., & Khan, N., 2023](#)). Parental involvement also includes providing a supportive learning environment at home, setting high expectations for academic achievement, monitoring progress, and providing feedback. Additionally, it involves encouraging children to ask questions and seek help when needed, celebrating successes, and offering support during challenges ([Mpekethu et al., 2020](#)). Parental involvement summarily helps children to imbibe positive attitude towards learning, ensure academic achievement, speed-up outcomes, and equally facilitates parent-teacher relationships and interactions or communication. Parental involvement is advantageous to increases parental participates well as engagement in school decision-making. Moreover, it ensures social, and emotional

skills, encourage a sense of community and partnership and synergy between teacher, parents, and schools ([Derehi & Kurtca, 2022](#)). Furthermore, parental involvement is a bridge between homes and schools, causing a more conducive providing a transition between the two environments. Children's whose parents engage and involved in their education received better reinforcement for learning at home, and are having more additional support or encouragement that consolidate skills, and knowledge. Generally, parental involvement is essentially support children's educational successes, promotes better and supportive learning environment. A synergy between stakeholders (parents, schools, and teachers) provide children with the best possible beginning in life so that they are capacitated, confident, loyal, wise, skilled, capable, and compassionate ([Adejoke, 2019](#); [Tudge, J. et al, 2000](#)).

Nevertheless, the result of this study indicate that parental involvement has a great influence on preschooling children at some schools in Ringim local government area (table 2). The finding revealed that, children who received much prenatal involvement score more mean marks ( $1009 \pm 49$ ) after an interventional instruction, more than their counterparts that score a mean mark of ( $617 \pm 26$ ). This study indicates the significant impact of parental involvement in aiding academic performance of children. The finding is in conformity with the results of Adejoke ([2019](#)) from Oyo state, Nigeria, demonstrating parental involvement significance on early childhood type of education; likewise, Bridgemohan ([2001](#)) from South Africa reports from a study that stressed parental involvement as an important aspect of modern education. Likewise, Mpekethu et al. ([2020](#)) in their study hinted that, parental involvement is linked to various positive outcomes in children's education.

## CONCLUSION

This study was carried out to investigate the effects of parental involvement on the academic performance of preschoolers in some selected schools in Ringim Local Government Area, Jigawa State, Nigeria. At the end it is sufficient to divulge that, the findings of this study show that parental involvement play a major role or a significant impact upon the academic performance of preschoolers. Thus, children who had ever received parental involvement have more tendency to uphold a better academic performance by scoring higher mean marks, higher than those who did not receive parental involvement. In fact, this study displays vividly the importance of parental involvement in ensuring that objectives of early childhood education are manifesting. Therein, it is recommended that, every parent should be encouraged with ways that stimulate participation in active manner in the course of his or her children's education. And schools should be giving opportunities for parents to actively play certain roles children's learning. Moreover, teachers need training on ways to encourage parental involvement in children's education. Doing this, verily the academic performance of preschoolers could be more bright and a solid foundation is to be laid for future academic successes.

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