

<https://doi.org/10.62837/2025.2.327>

**ESMİRA HƏMZAĞA QIZI AĞAMIRZƏYƏVA**

*Filologiya üzrə fəlsəfə doktoru*

*Azərbaycan Dövlət Pedaqoji Universiteti*

*Üzeyir Hacıbəyov küçəsi 68*

*Email :esmaaqa@gmail.com*

## **XVIII-XIX ƏSRLƏRDƏ UŞAQ ƏDƏBİYYATI XÜLASƏ**

XVIII və XIX əsrlərdə uşaq ədəbiyyatı, cəmiyyətin ümumi dəyişikliklərini və uşaqlıq anlayışının inkişafını əks etdirərək əhəmiyyətli transformasiyalara məruz qaldı. Sənaye inqilabının təsiri, təhsil sistemindəki dəyişikliklər və uşaqların cəmiyyətdəki roluna dair yeni baxışlar bu dövrdə uşaq ədəbiyyatının xarakterinə və məqsədinə böyük təsir göstərdi. Bu məqalə həmin dövrlərdə uşaq ədəbiyyatının inkişafını araşdırır, əsas mövzuları, təsirli əsərləri və tanınmış müəllifləri ön plana çıxarır.

Əxlaq təliminə əsaslanan didaktik ədəbiyyat, uşaqlara düzgün davranış qaydalarını öyrətməyi və onların əxlaqi inkişafına töhfə verməyi hədəfləyirdi. Lakin zaman keçdikcə, uşaq ədəbiyyatı yalnız öyrətməyi deyil, həm də əyləndirməyi, uşaqların təsəvvür və yaradıcılığını inkişaf etdirməyi hədəf aldı. Təsəvvür, fantaziya və macərəyə vurğu edən hekayələr bu dövrdə xüsusilə populyarlaşdı. Belə hekayələrdə uşaqların azad düşünmə qabiliyyətini dəstəkləyən və onların dünyaya fərqli baxışlarını formalaşdıran mövzulara yer verildi. Bundan əlavə, bu məqalədə həmin dövrdə yazılmış əsərlərin müasir uşaq ədəbiyyatına təsiri də müzakirə edilir. Ədəbi irs olaraq qəbul edilən bu əsərlər, müasir dövrün yazıçılarına ilham mənbəyi olmuşdur. Bu irs həmçinin uşaqlar üçün yazılmış ədəbiyyatda dəyərlərin və təsəvvürün qorunub saxlanılmasına şərait yaratmışdır. Məqalədə, həmçinin, 18 və 19-cu əsrlərin tanınmış uşaq yazıçıları, onların əsas əsərləri və həmin dövrün uşaq ədəbiyyatına gətirdikləri yeniliklər ətrafı şəkildə nəzərdən keçirilir.

**Açar sözlər:** Uşaq ədəbiyyatı, mənəvi tərbiyə, təxəyyül, macərə, ədəbi təkamül

**Есмира Агамирзаева Хамзаага**

**Детская литература XVIII-XIX веков**

**Резюме**

В XVIII-XIX веках детская литература претерпела значительные преобразования, отражая общие изменения в обществе и развитие представлений о детстве. Влияние промышленной революции, изменения в системе образования и новые взгляды на роль детей в обществе существенно повлияли на характер и цель детской литературы того времени. В данной

статье рассматривается развитие детской литературы в эти периоды, выделяются основные темы, значимые произведения и известные авторы.

Дидактическая литература, основанная на нравственном воспитании, ставила своей целью обучение детей правилам правильного поведения и содействие их моральному развитию. Однако со временем детская литература стала стремиться не только к обучению, но и к развлечению, а также к развитию воображения и творческих способностей детей. Рассказы с акцентом на фантазию, воображение и приключения в этот период стали особенно популярными. В таких произведениях поднимались темы, поддерживающие способность детей к свободному мышлению и формирующие их уникальный взгляд на мир.

Кроме того, в статье обсуждается влияние произведений того времени на современную детскую литературу. Эти произведения, признанные литературным наследием, стали источником вдохновения для современных писателей. Это наследие также способствовало сохранению ценностей и воображения в литературе, написанной для детей. В статье подробно рассматриваются известные детские писатели 18-19 веков, их ключевые произведения и новшества, которые они привнесли в детскую литературу того времени.

**Ключевые слова:** Детская литература, нравственное воспитание, воображение, приключения, литературная эволюция

### **Esmira Aghamirzayeva Hamzaaga Children's Literature in the XVIII-XIX Centuries**

#### **Summary**

In the XVIII-XIX centuries, children's literature experienced significant changes, reflecting broader societal shifts and the evolving understanding of childhood. The Industrial Revolution, educational reforms, and changing views on the role of children in society all had a profound impact on the direction and purpose of children's literature. This article explores how children's literature developed during these periods, focusing on key themes, notable works, and influential authors.

Initially, much of children's literature was didactic, aimed at teaching children moral values and proper behavior. However, over time, the focus of children's literature expanded beyond mere instruction to include entertainment, imagination, and creativity. Stories that emphasized fantasy, adventure, and imaginative thinking became particularly popular during this era. These works encouraged children to think independently and nurtured their unique perspectives on the world.

The article also examines the lasting impact of these historical works on modern children's literature. Recognized as part of literary heritage, these works have continued to inspire contemporary writers and contributed to the preservation of

important values and creativity in literature for children. Additionally, the article highlights the key children's authors of the 18th and 19th centuries, their major contributions, and the innovations they introduced to the field of children's literature during their time.

**Keywords:** Children's literature, moral education, imagination, adventure, literary evolution.

### **Historical Context**

The 18th and 19th centuries were periods of profound social, economic, and cultural change. The Enlightenment brought about new ways of thinking, emphasizing reason, science, and education. The Industrial Revolution, which began in the late 18th century and continued into the 19th, drastically altered social structures and everyday life. These changes had a significant impact on literacy rates and the accessibility of books.

The Enlightenment fostered a belief in progress and the perfectibility of human beings, which translated into a greater emphasis on education. The Industrial Revolution led to urbanization and the rise of a middle class with disposable income, creating a market for books. Both movements contributed to the rise of children's literature as a distinct genre.

### **Importance of Literature**

Children's literature emerged as a distinct genre during these centuries, reflecting the evolving views on childhood and education. The study of this literature provides insight into how societies have perceived and shaped the experiences of children over time. It also highlights the origins of many themes and narrative structures that continue to influence modern children's books.

### **18th Century Children's Literature**

#### **Early Examples**

The 18th century marked the beginning of children's literature as a distinct category. One of the earliest and most influential figures in this genre was John Newbery. In 1744, Newbery published "A Little Pretty Pocket-Book," which is often cited as the first modern children's book. This work combined engaging stories with moral lessons, a format that would become standard in children's literature for many years.

Newbery's publications were revolutionary in their appeal to children's enjoyment and education. He used bright covers, illustrations, and affordable pricing to attract young readers. His works included fables, rhymes, and games, which made learning enjoyable. This approach marked a significant departure from the previously stern and didactic texts aimed at children.

#### **Themes and Characteristics**

Children's books of the 18th century were predominantly didactic, aiming to teach children moral values and proper behavior. These books often included stories

that illustrated virtues such as honesty, diligence, and piety. The emphasis was on instruction, with entertainment being secondary.

The content of these books often reflected the moral and religious values of the time. For example, stories frequently depicted the consequences of bad behavior and the rewards of virtuous living. This approach aligned with the broader societal goal of shaping children into moral and responsible adults.

### **Key Authors and Works**

- **John Newbery:** As a pioneer in children's publishing, Newbery's works, including "The History of Little Goody Two-Shoes," were significant for their blend of instruction and amusement. His books often included rhymes, games, and fables, making learning enjoyable for children.

- **Sarah Trimmer:** Another important figure, Trimmer wrote "Fabulous Histories" (1786), which used animal characters to impart moral lessons. Her works were aimed at both educating and entertaining young readers.

Trimmer's "Fabulous Histories" is particularly notable for its anthropomorphic characters, which taught children about virtues and vices in a relatable way. Her approach combined moral instruction with engaging storytelling, setting a precedent for future authors.

### **19th Century Children's Literature**

#### **Romantic Influence**

The Romantic movement, which emphasized imagination, emotion, and the natural world, had a profound impact on children's literature in the 19th century. This period saw a shift from the purely didactic works of the previous century to stories that celebrated the innocence and creativity of childhood. Authors like William Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge played a role in this shift, although their works were primarily for adults, their influence extended to children's literature.

The Romantics viewed childhood as a time of purity and imagination, a stark contrast to the more utilitarian views of the Enlightenment. This shift in perspective influenced the themes and styles of children's literature, encouraging authors to create works that celebrated the wonder and mystery of the natural world and the power of the human imagination.

#### **Fantasy and Adventure**

The 19th century witnessed the rise of fantasy and adventure genres in children's literature. These stories often featured imaginative worlds and exciting quests, appealing to the sense of wonder and curiosity in young readers. Lewis Carroll's "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" (1865) is a prime example of this trend. Carroll's work broke away from the didactic tradition, offering a whimsical and nonsensical narrative that delighted children and adults alike.

Carroll's use of absurdity and playful language challenged conventional storytelling, inviting readers into a fantastical world where the impossible became

possible. This approach opened the door for other authors to explore imaginative and adventurous themes in their own works.

### **Moral and Social Themes**

Despite the growing emphasis on fantasy and adventure, moral and social themes remained prevalent in 19th-century children's literature. Many authors used their stories to address social issues and advocate for reform. For instance, Charles Kingsley's "The Water-Babies" (1863) not only provided a fantastical tale but also commented on the harsh realities of child labor and the need for social change.

Kingsley's story of a chimney sweep who undergoes a magical transformation served as both an entertaining narrative and a critique of the exploitation of children. His work reflected a broader trend in 19th-century literature, where authors sought to raise awareness about social injustices and promote empathy and moral integrity.

### **Key Authors and Works**

- **Lewis Carroll:** Carroll's "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" and its sequel, "Through the Looking-Glass," are seminal works in children's literature. These books introduced readers to a world of imaginative possibilities and playful language.

- **Robert Louis Stevenson:** Known for his adventure stories, Stevenson's "Treasure Island" (1883) remains a classic. His "A Child's Garden of Verses" (1885) is a collection of poetry that captures the joys and challenges of childhood.

- **Charles Dickens:** Although primarily known for his novels for adults, Dickens' works like "A Christmas Carol" (1843) also had a significant impact on children's literature. His stories often highlighted social injustices and advocated for compassion and empathy.

Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" used the character of Ebenezer Scrooge to teach lessons about generosity and the importance of community. The story's themes of redemption and the spirit of Christmas resonated with readers of all ages and cemented its place as a beloved classic.

### **Comparative Analysis**

#### **Evolution of Themes**

The transition from the 18th to the 19th century saw a significant evolution in the themes of children's literature. While the 18th century focused on didacticism and moral instruction, the 19th century introduced a greater emphasis on imagination and adventure. This shift reflected broader societal changes, including the Romantic movement's celebration of emotion and creativity.

The didactic literature of the 18th century aimed to prepare children for adult responsibilities by instilling moral values. In contrast, 19th-century literature recognized the importance of nurturing a child's imagination and emotional development. This change in focus allowed for a richer variety of stories and themes.

#### **Changing Audience**

As literacy rates increased and books became more affordable, the audience for children's literature expanded. This broader audience led to a greater diversity in the types of stories being told. The 19th century, in particular, saw the rise of literature that not only entertained but also addressed social issues and advocated for change.

The expansion of the middle class and the growth of public education systems contributed to the increased demand for children's books. Authors and publishers responded by creating works that appealed to a wide range of interests and addressed contemporary concerns, such as child labor and social inequality.

### **Impact on Modern Literature**

#### **Legacy**

The themes and styles developed in the 18th and 19th centuries laid the groundwork for contemporary children's literature. The blend of moral lessons with engaging narratives continues to be a hallmark of the genre. Authors like J.K. Rowling and Roald Dahl have carried forward the tradition of combining imaginative storytelling with underlying moral and social messages.

Modern children's literature often draws on the rich heritage of these earlier works, incorporating elements of fantasy, adventure, and moral instruction. The enduring popularity of classic stories like "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" and "Treasure Island" attests to their lasting influence.

#### **Continuing Themes**

Many themes from these historical periods, such as the triumph of good over evil, the importance of imagination, and the value of moral integrity, remain prevalent in modern children's books. Additionally, the focus on addressing social issues and advocating for positive change continues to be a significant aspect of children's literature.

Contemporary authors continue to explore complex themes and challenge readers to think critically about the world around them. Books like J.K. Rowling's "Harry Potter" series and Philip Pullman's "His Dark Materials" trilogy build on the foundations laid by their 18th and 19th-century predecessors, blending adventure and fantasy with moral and philosophical questions.

#### **Changing Perceptions of Childhood**

The evolution in children's literature also mirrors changing perceptions of childhood. In the 18th century, childhood was often seen as a preparatory phase for adulthood, with literature serving as a tool for moral and educational development. By the 19th century, however, childhood began to be recognized as a distinct and valuable stage of life in its own right, worthy of celebration and imaginative exploration. This shift in perception is evident in the literature of the period, which increasingly depicted children as active participants in their own stories, rather than merely passive recipients of moral instruction.

### **Impact on Contemporary Literature**

The legacy of 18th and 19th-century children's literature is profound and enduring. The thematic and stylistic innovations of these periods have left a lasting imprint on contemporary children's books. Modern authors continue to draw on the rich traditions of imaginative storytelling and moral exploration established by their predecessors. The emphasis on fantasy, adventure, and moral lessons can be seen in the works of contemporary authors like J.K. Rowling and Roald Dahl, who have built upon the foundations laid by earlier writers.

Furthermore, the evolution of children's literature has had a significant impact on how childhood is represented in literature today. Contemporary children's books often blend elements of the didactic and the imaginative, reflecting a nuanced understanding of childhood that values both moral development and creative exploration. The ongoing dialogue between historical and modern perspectives enriches the genre and continues to shape the ways in which children's literature

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**Rəyçi: dosent Səkinəxanım Vəliyeva**