Abstract

Odi Yonee is the Idoma cultural puzzle and number riddle game used as an evening activity to teach children how to count objects or figures. This study seeks to examine its educational approaches and roles in the development of children's cognitive ability. It uses cultural instructional techniques in an intellectual condition to impact on the knowledge of Idoma pupils. Its objectives are to help modern teachers develop new ideas with the use of interpretation from cultural and environmental data as a source for the teaching and learning process in modern schools. A study like this will guide our present-day curriculum developers and school teachers to adjust their planning and methods of teaching to the mentality of their pupils by making use of the child's cultural and environmental data.

Keywords: Idoma cultural puzzle, number riddle game and development of children's cognitive ability

Introduction

This study is based on the Idoma speaking people of Benue state, Nigeria. The Idoma ethnic group occupies seven local government areas of Benue state, where they have a population of nearly a million people (National Population Census (NPC) (1991)), Amali (2000). In traditional Idoma society, Odi yonee, or a puzzle