

Elif Naz Altaş
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Proactive and enthusiastic PhD student at Middle East Technical University which ranked first among universities in Turkey in the QS EECA 2023. A detail-oriented research and teaching assistant with experience in designing and completing analyses for research and evaluation projects that employ a variety of research methodologies. Ability to work independently and in team-based settings, have good collaboration skills, and have very good writing skills.

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Early Childhood Education, Middle East Technical University, 2022-Expected 2026

M.S., Early Childhood Education, Middle East Technical University, 2022

Thesis: *Investigating preschoolers' self-care behaviors: Teacher and parent reports*

Thesis Advisor: Hasibe Özlen Demircan, PhD

BSc, Early Childhood Education, Middle East Technical University, 2018

HONORS/ AWARDS

High Honor Degree, GPA: 3.23/4.0, METU, 2018

High Honor Degree, GPA: 3.82/4.0, METU, 2022

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, TED University, 2020-Present

- Assist undergraduate courses
- Mentor students in their courses
- Prepare presentations for particular lectures
- Assisted with data collection and analysis for studies

Preschool Teacher, KIDYA Preschool, 2018-2019

- Gained practical skills in lesson planning, classroom management, and child assessment
- Teaching linguistically and culturally diverse children
- Had direct practice experience working with multinational preschool children

Erasmus Intern, Jesle a školky Bambíno, Czech Republic, 2018

- Developed cultural awareness and great communications skills
- Had direct practice experience working with multinational preschool children
- observe firsthand the importance of providing young children with a nurturing, engaging learning environment
- gained practical skills in lesson planning, classroom management, and child assessment

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

PROJECT

Views of Preschool Teachers and Families Regarding the Effect of Covid-19 Pandemic on School Readiness, 2021-2022

Investigating children's development and school readiness level after Covid-19

Research Associates: Assoc. Dr. Sühendan Semine Er, PhD
Assist. Dr. Çağla Öneren Şendil, PhD
Res. Assist. Elif Naz Altaş, M.S.
Res. Assist. Tuba Özgül, M.S.
Fellowship: Başak Gürsoy, BSc
Fellowship: Ceren Çelik, BSc

The Effect of the Book Reading and Play Programme (KİTOP) on Preschool Children's Early Literacy Skills and its Reflection on Early Literacy Environments and Practices (*Kitap Okuma ve Oyun Programı'nın (KİTOP) Okul Öncesi Dönem Çocuklarının Erken Okuryazarlık Becerilerine Etkisi, Erken Okuryazarlık Ortam ve Uygulamalarına Yansımalarının İncelenmesi*), 2022-2024

Investigating the effect of 'KİTOP' on children's early literacy skills

Project Coordinator: Assist. Dr. Gökçe Karaman Benli, PhD
Scholarship: Elif Naz Altaş, M.S.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Altaş, E. N., İ nö nü , G. (2021, July). *The Perceptions and views of early childhood education pre-service teachers on multiculturalism* [Paper presentation]. 8th International Eurasian Educational Research Congress, Aksaray, Türkiye.

Karlı-Çalamak, E., Tantekin Erden, F., **Altaş, E. N.** (2022, August). *What Distinguishes Teachers Who Enact Equitable Teaching with Refugee Children?* [Paper presentation]. 30th EECERA Annual Conference, Glasgow, Scotland.

Altaş, E.N., Öneren-Şendil, Ç. (2023, June). *The Assessment Practices of Preschool Teachers Working in Multicultural Classrooms* [Paper presentation]. 10th International Eurasian Educational Research Congress, Ankara, Türkiye.

Özgül, T., Demirci-Ünal, Z., **Altaş, E. N.,** Mumcuoğlu, A., & Demircan, H. Ö. (2023, June). *An investigation on funds of knowledge views and attitudes of preschool teachers working in multicultural classrooms* [Paper presentation]. 10th International Eurasian Educational Research Congress, Ankara, Türkiye.

Altaş, E.N., Demircan, H.Ö. (2023, September). *Who Cares: Preschool Children's Self-care Behaviors* [Paper presentation]. International Education Congress 2023, Ankara, Türkiye.

Altaş, E.N., Turgut-Kurt, R., Temiz, N., Gürgah Oğul, İ. (2023). *Okul Öncesi Öğretmen Adaylarının Sürdürülebilir Kalkınma Öğretimine Yönelik Öz-Yeterlik İnançlarının İncelenmesi* [Paper presentation]. 8th International Early Childhood Education Congress, Karaman, Türkiye.

PUBLICATIONS

Book chapters:

Öneren-Şendil, Ç. & **Altaş, E. N.** (2022). Farklı erken çocukluk eğitimi programlarında teknoloji. In F. Tantekin Erden & D. Altun (Ed.), *Erken Çocukluk Döneminde Dijital Teknoloji: Uygulamalar, Araştırmalar ve Eğilimler* (pp. 70-94). Ankara: Nobel Akademik Yayıncılık.

Altaş, E.N., Er, S.S., & Özgül, T. (2023). Sosyal duygusal öğrenme-İlişki kurma becerileri. In M. Yıldız-Bıçakçı & Z. Apaydın-Demirci (Ed.), *Sosyal Duygusal Öğrenme* (pp. 130- 152). Ankara: Nobel Akademik Yayıncılık.

Articles under review:

Turgut Kurt, R., **Altaş, E. N., Şakar, G., Tonga, F.E., Tantekin Erden, F.** (under review). Valuing diversity in early childhood education: comparative analysis of New Zealand, Singapore, and Australia curriculum framework.

Altaş, E. N., Mumcuoğlu, A., Özgül, T., Demirci Ünal, Z., & Demircan, H.Ö. (under review). Unlocking Cultural Treasures: Viewpoints of preschool teachers working with refugee children on funds of knowledge.

Demirci Ünal, Z., Mumcuoğlu, A., Özgül, T., **Altaş, E. N., & Demircan, H.Ö.** (under review). Let's know each other more and strengthen ties: Funds of knowledge experiences of preschool teachers working with refugee children.

Altaş, E. N., Demircan, H. Ö. (under review). Let's Care: Teachers' and Parents' Self-Reports on Preschoolers' Self-care Behaviors and School Implementations.

Yıldırım, A., Mumcuoğlu, A., Türkel, E. Y., Demirci Ünal, Z., **Altaş, E. N.**, Topatan, E., Kılıç, S., Aydoğan, G. (under review). Philanthropic tendency scale for teachers.

Temiz, N., Altaş, E. N., Turgut Kurt, R., Gürğah Oğul, İ. (under review). Investigation of pre-service teachers' self-efficacy beliefs towards teaching sustainable development.

ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES

2023 Congress Organization Committee Membership (10th Eurasian Educational Research Congress)
2021 Assistantship in Qualitative Research Training from Theory to Practice III offered by Prof. Dr. Sibel Balcı

VOLUNTEERING

2023 General Assembly Membership (Intelligence and Talent Foundation)
2019-Present Creative Team Membership and Editor (Intelligence and Talent Foundation)
2017-Present Assistantship in Intelligence and Talent Congresses
2017 Assistantship in European Day of Science and Fun at METU
2017 Assistantship in FIRST Lego League Ankara Tournament

RESEARCH SKILLS

- Knowledge of research design and methodology
- Knowledge of and experience working with statistical computing and coding software (SPSS, MAXQDA, NVivo)
- Able to communicate research findings clearly and effectively to a variety of audiences
- Understand and synthesize large quantities of data
- Design and analyze mixed method studies

LANGUAGES

Turkish: Native
English: Proficient