

ABSTRACT

The topic of the diploma thesis is Training the development of phonemic awareness in preschool children using the Elkonin method. The method serves as a tool for preventing difficulties in the development of reading and writing in primary school. The diploma thesis is focused mainly on the development of phonemic awareness and further on the development of language skills in selected children in a regular kindergarten.

The thesis is divided into two parts. To the theoretical and practical part. The theoretical part defines the basic terms related to the topic – communication, language and speech, hearing. It introduces the reader to the development of a child's speech from the period of intrauterine development to the age of about six years. Due to the focus of the diploma thesis, the greatest emphasis is placed on the speech development of a preschool child. The content of the chapter devoted to speech development is also the definition of language levels of speech. The theoretical part in one of the chapters defines the concepts of phonetics, phonology and phonological abilities. This is followed by a section devoted to the development of phonological awareness and its level at the beginning of reading mastery. The personality of Daniil Boršovič El'konin and the method of Training the development of phonemic awareness in preschool children using the Elkonin method, its relationship to the Framework Educational Programme for Preschool Education and at-risk children are characterized at the end of the theoretical part of the thesis.

The practical part is of a qualitative nature and describes the case study. It shows the possibilities of using the given method within pre-primary education in a regular nursery school. Based on the informed consent of parents, five children were selected for the research in whom deficiencies in phonemic awareness were observed. After the initial diagnosis, the children's phonemic awareness was purposefully, regularly and systematically developed according to the Training for the Development of Phonemic Awareness Using the Elkonin Method for a period of 3 months. The results of the children were monitored and regularly recorded, at the end output testing was performed. The achieved level was also assessed in terms of school maturity requirements.

KEYWORDS

Speech development; phonetics; phonology; phonological abilities; phonemic awareness; Training in the development of phonemic awareness using the Elkonin method.