

ABSTRACT

This master's thesis entitled "Utilization of educational literature on the topic of insects in the practice of preschool education" is divided into theoretical and empirical sections. The aim of the thesis is the development of scientific knowledge through the use of children's educational literature in the preschool environment.

The theoretical section outlines the characteristics of preschool-aged children with respect to the topic of the thesis, issues related to environmental education in preschool education, characteristics of literature for children, utilization of educational books in preschools, and an analysis of the Framework Educational Program for Preschool Education in relation to the thesis topic.

The objective of the empirical section is to create lessons using educational literature about insects that contribute to the development of scientific skills in children. Additionally, it seeks to determine the popularity of educational books about insects based on the age and gender of the children, as well as to map the reading environment of the children. The results of the practical part were verified based on pretest and posttest, participant observation of children, a questionnaire for parents of pupils, and activities aimed at assessing the popularity of books.

The action research took place during October 2023, involving sixteen children attending the forest classroom. The research results demonstrated that working with educational literature had a positive impact on the development of children's scientific knowledge, reading skills, creativity, and memory. Through this approach, children also acquired methods of reading strategies and improved their ability to argue.

KEYWORDS

non-fiction, insect, kindergarten, reading literacy, reading strategies