

ABSTRACT

This bachelor thesis will convey a research theme of death and its presence as a theme in the kindergarten and amongst its pedagogues and their explanations of it. The goal of this thesis is to map the death-related themes present in kindergarten and the way their presence manifests there. We also strive to create a list of appropriate and qualified literature for children to go along with it and which can be used to work with the idea of death in kindergarten. Using this we are going to create, realise and reflect three lessons containing death-related themes where we would use „work with a book“ method in selected kindergarten.

Theoretical part of this thesis will concentrate on the death-theme and ways in which children approach said theme – this will be done through characteristics of pre-school child and through their cognitive evolution towards the death-theme. Further on in the practical part of the thesis we will explain the term „reader’s pre-literacy” through the work with a book method and read strategies used in kindergarten.

First part of the practical part of the thesis is covering results of a questionnaire with 107 respondents – kindergarten teachers. The questionnaire was targeted on questions related to the death-theme being present in the kindergarten and how is said theme being worked with in this specific area. 53,3 % respondents agreed that the death-related themes are not present in the kindergarten at all and another quarter of respondents had said that children in this age do not understand death as it is and that it shouldn’t be covered at all. If the pedagogues had decided to work with this theme, it usually was in a smaller group of children and related to the „Dusicky“ day. The second part of the practical part of the thesis contains a list of literature published after 1989, recommended by the respondents, which in their opinion helps children understand death-related themes better. The third part contains a proposition of, according to the constructivist model E-U-R, three lectures, their realization and later reflection. Said lectures will try to convey death-related themes to children through two books – one educational and the second story-based.

KEYWORDS

death, kindergarten, literature for children, working with book