

## **Abstract**

This thesis focuses on the use of information technologies (ICT) in the development of children from families with low socio-economic background, specifically on the use of the Smart application. The theoretical part of the thesis discusses the specificity of the pre-school age from the perspectives of developmental psychology and social pedagogy. These disciplines are used to define the optimal characteristics and competencies necessary for school readiness. Next, specific aspects of school readiness and factors influencing this readiness are discussed. Relatedly, the specificities of upbringing in socially disadvantaged families and their impacts on child development are explored. In the following chapter, information technologies and their effects on child development are thoroughly discussed. The application Smart is then introduced, which is a specific tool designed to support the development of school readiness. The Smart application is then used in the empirical part of the thesis. Finally, at the end of the theoretical part, the diagnostic instrument Isophi is described. This instrument was used to evaluate the children participating in my research. The empirical part of the thesis describes a multiple case study of the development of children from families with low socio-economic background using the Smart application.

Key words: preschool age, development of child, school readiness, influence of environment on child, family environment, social and cultural environment, social disadvantage, social skills, information technologies, educational application, SMART application, pedagogical diagnostic, diagnostic tool Isophi.