

ABSTRACT

This bachelor's thesis approaches the life of Maria Montessori, her pedagogy, and more specifically the teaching of French as a foreign language in Montessori schools. It consists of two parts. The theoretical part of the bachelor's thesis introduces the reader to the basic terminology in the field of alternative pedagogy, what were the impulses and reasons for the emergence of alternative pedagogy as such and describes the development of alternative pedagogy in the Czech Republic and France. Then it focuses on the life and personality of Maria Montessori and her pedagogy, in particular her principles and methods. The thesis also describes the concept of teaching at Montessori schools, including the role of the teacher in education and the specific features of Montessori pedagogy at second grade of elementary school. The theoretical part concludes with a chapter that introduces the reader to Maria Montessori's legacy and how her pedagogy is widespread. It includes a mapping of Montessori school facilities in the three largest cities of the Czech Republic. The practical part consists of a case study of two Montessori primary schools. These are the Montessori Primary School in Kladno and the Montessori Five Star Primary School in Brno. The aim of the practical part is to discover what form the teaching of French as a foreign language in Montessori schools takes, how it differs from teaching at traditional schools, what principles of Montessori pedagogy are applied in teaching and also whether there are effective Montessori principles of teaching French that could be a source of inspiration for teachers at traditional schools.

KEYWORDS

French language, Montessori, teaching, foreign language, alternative pedagogy