

ABSTRACT

The diploma thesis is focused on the concept of the psychomotor development in context of remaining primary reflexes in children. The author draws on the knowledge of developmental psychology and neurophysiology that some of developmentally earlier stages must under optimal circumstances and maturation of a child disappear and be replaced by ontogenetically newer forms. Research confirms continuity of persistent primary reflexes, psychomotor development and learning and behavioral problems. The thesis aims to investigate whether inhibition of primary reflexes using Neuro-developmental therapy improves the condition of children with delayed psychomotor development, including their school grades. The author in the introductory chapters focusses on normal psychomotor development of children, in particular gross motor skills, fine motor skills, sensory skills, including proprioception and kinesthesia and their importance for learning ability in school age. The next part of the thesis is focused on particular primary reflexes and their impact on psychomotor development. The author pays special attention to the climbing stage in infancy which she considers as an important milestone in the optimal psychomotor development. Case studies shows, that skipping any developmental stage can be considered as a risk factor for learning and behavioral disorders and also indicates remaining primary reflexes at the child. Persisting primary reflexes can be inhibited by Neuro-developmental therapy and thereby allows optimal psychomotor development of children.

Key words: psychomotor development, primary reflexes, climbing, Neuro-developmental therapy