

Abstract:

The aim of this thesis is to verify the effectiveness of children's listening activities in the preschool period from five to six years of age, to introduce the utilization of methodology connected with listening to the music by Jaroslav Herden in terms of preschool education, and to demonstrate the importance of motivation and integrative activities for the development of attention together with the overall harmonious development of children. In the theoretical part, I analyse the input of music into the consciousness of children in terms of basic psychological features and functions which are important for perception. I introduce basic musical abilities, particularly musical creativity and imagination. The theoretical part is concluded with the clarification of basic means of expression and shape features, which are important not only for the music perception as such, but also the music perception in an ontogenetic context. Moreover, I also present the philosophy of educational thinking concerning the listening activities proposed by Professor Jaroslav Herden.

In the practical part, I introduce a comprehensive authorial project involving the methodology of Jaroslav Herden's music tailored to children who are aged from five to six years. This project was implemented into practice and evaluated subsequently.

Based on the results of the research, I have concluded that, provided the motivation is strong, this listening project can surely be applicable to the development of children's perception as well as apperception, and that it affects positively the psychophysiological features of children.