

ABSTRACT

The diploma thesis *The Bible and Its Adaptations for Children* addresses the question of the quality of children's Biblical adaptations. It aims to compile a comprehensive set of criteria based on relevant literature which children's adaptations should meet. These criteria should become a practical tool for primary school teachers to make it easier for them to select quality stories for their lessons. The entire first chapter is devoted to the Bible and should serve as a general knowledge base of the book. The second chapter describes children's literature in terms of its specifics and psychological characteristics of young readers. A special place in this chapter belongs to myth (as one of the essential biblical genres) and the Bible itself, and the examination of their place in children's literature. The chapter on children's literature also includes a section the aim of which is to explain the role of illustration in children's books and to remind us of its crucial position in children's literature. The following chapter deals with the term *adaptation*, first from the general literary point of view, and then it focuses on the child recipient and the peculiarities of adapting the Bible. At the end of this chapter, the planned set of criteria is created on the bases of the previous theoretical part and formed into questions on individual features of Biblical adaptations; for easier manipulation, these questions are arranged into five areas according to their subject. In the last chapter of this work, four different adaptations of two biblical texts (one from the Old Testament and one from the New Testament) are used to demonstrate how to work with the newly created set of criteria. The thesis then concludes with the evaluation of the adaptation that is – according to the author, taking into account all the features of the given work – the most suitable for use in literature classes at the primary level.

KEYWORDS

Children's Literature, the Bible, Bible Stories, Literary Adaptation, Adaptations for Children, Literary Education, Primary Education, Young Learners