ABSTRACT

This bachelor thesis deals with the influence of drama lessons on friendly relations in a kindergarten group. The goal is to find out if drama lessons can influence children´s behaviour and make relationships between students in the class stronger. The thesis consists of two parts. The theoretical part of this thesis defines the term „drama education" and analyses particular teaching methods which are subsequently used in the research for the practical part. An important komponent, which is described in the theoretical part, is prosocial behaviour. This concept deals with interact and cooperate with one another during free play, controlled lessons, and outdoor activities. The practical part of this thesis seeks to uncover predominating relations in the kindergarten. It also deals with the planning, teaching, and subsequement observation of drama lessons in the group. Moreover, the thesis examines the class as a whole, its daily programme and the children´s cooperation within the group. On the basis of interview with children and teachers, we observe changes in the children´s behaviour, their perceived level of inclusion in the group as well as their thoughts on the importance of friendship. The theme of drama lessons comes from the children´s book by Petr Sis – The Happy Elf. The main methods are semi-structured interviews, participating and non-participating observations, action research and subsequement pedagogical reflection of particular lessons. The thesis finds out, which dramatic methods are suitable for strengthening relationships in the group. The most suitable methods are those that have a simple assignment and entertaining form. The whole programme is based on a story that is intertwined with the theme of friendship. Some conflicts between children can be alleviated or resolved by methods, which target eye contact or communication in a smaller group or in pairs. In my opinion, appropriately chosen dramatic methods and techniques can be used to determine what problems are occuring.