

## ABSTRACT

**Aim of thesis:** The aim of this thesis is to monitor the relationship between the place of residence and the mastered level of motor skills together with the quality of children's speech. At present, there is a more frequent postponement of school attendance, caused by deficiencies in speech or insufficient level of motor skills. The nature of the activities of preschool children has changed considerably, mainly due to the influence of technology. Physical activities and an active way of spending free time have a significant effect on the development of children's motor skills. Other goals of this thesis are to find out whether children have an adequate level of motor skills and speech before starting school and to prove whether there is a connection between delayed motor skills and speech problems.

**Method of thesis:** The motor test MABC-2 was used to develop the research of this diploma thesis; articulation test according to Hrušková using picture cards for children; a questionnaire which five questions in paper form, which was distributed to the parents of the tested children; an interview with eight kindergarten teachers, where I had prepared three questions and then left room for free discussion and analysis of school education programmes of individual kindergartens with regard to the educational offer for the development of motor skills and speech of children.

**Results:** More than 1/3 of those tested did not have an adequate level of motor skills, and 1/3 of those tested had pronunciation difficulties, specifically 35% of children. The assumption that children who have motor problems also have difficulty speaking has been confirmed. 30% of children achieved low results in both tests. Slightly better results were achieved by children from the village kindergarten, probably due to a different lifestyle. Kindergarten teachers agreed that the level of children's motor skills and speech is rather weak today. The analysis of the school education programs revealed shortcomings in content of the school education program of the town's kindergarten. The teachers from the city were, with one exception, satisfied with their school education program, and the teachers from the village will adjust the school education program by mutual agreement. The survey with parents brought positive results in terms of the share of physical activities of children during the week, parents were mostly satisfied with the offer of activities for children in their place of residence. The vast majority of children whose parents observe a speech defect attends a speech therapist.

**KEYWORDS**

School readiness, preschool children, preschool age, motor skills, MABC-2, pronunciation.