

The aim of the study was to devise and verify the effectiveness of a procedure for investigating development in the representation of human and animal figures, used on a representative sample of pre-school age children. On the basis of the results of the analysis of the children's work, the study subsequently aimed to compare the level of portrayal of individual figures and events in spontaneous and intentionally offered creative activities. Over the course of empirical observational investigation, broken down into four stages, methods of quantitative and qualitative research methods were used. The focus centred on the experimental aspect, complemented by case studies. The research has produced findings regarding the current level of representational abilities of children at nursery school age and regarding the possibilities open to teachers for stimulating the development of these abilities through appropriate formulation of tasks, devised as creative problems set for solution.