

TITLE:

Communication in Girls with Rett Syndrome

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ABSTRACT:

This thesis investigates the communication in girls with Rett syndrome. Rett syndrome is a severe neurological disorder leading to multiple disabilities and severely impaired communication skills. The aim of the thesis is to describe the communication skills of girls with Rett Syndrome, the role of parents in the development of communication and the possibilities for communication intervention. This issue is presented on case histories of three girls with Rett Syndrome of various ages, acquired from semi-structured interviews with parents or caregivers of girls and participative observation of girls' behaviors and their interaction with the environment. The research results in the description of motor and communication skills and methods used to develop communication with the three girls with Rett Syndrome. Research shows that even though the communication capabilities of girls with Rett Syndrome are very individual, parents are looking for ways to develop the communication skills of their daughters and they expect the professional advice from special educators, which they, in their opinion gets poorly.

KEYWORDS:

Rett Syndrome, communication impairment, communication intervention