

Abstract

Title: Autism and zootherapy

In my thesis I deal with the topic of using different kinds of zootherapy for people with various autistic spectrum disorders. The thesis has a goal to find out diverse possibilities which zootherapy can offer to people with autistic spectrum disorders. I focused on exploration what kind of zootherapy is suitable for the specific diagnosis or the other way around, what kind of zootherapy is not a good fit for a concrete diagnosis. In the thesis I also describe a various subtypes of autistic spectrum disorders including Asperger's syndrome. I co-operate with organizations which are engaged in assistance for people with autism spectrum disorders, medical treatment and rehabilitation, zootherapy or professional animal assistance training. Zootherapy is in a constant expansion and suitability of various kinds of this therapeutic method for each autistic spectrum disorder, or mentally and physically disabled is still a matter of contemporary research.

Key words: autism, autistic spectrum, zootherapy, Asperger's syndrome, assistance, canistherapy, hippotherapy