

ABSTRACT

In this thesis, a historical topic (Communism in Czechoslovakia) is discussed as well as new forms of teaching of this topic at primary school. To evaluate the instruction we use children's understanding of a historical topic in general and, in particular, their comprehension of Communist society. In the introduction, an evolution of teaching of History and the theory of children's conceptions (misconception, preconception) are described. Then, a number of available information about Communism and collectivisation in the Czech lands is presented. The first part of the research section is comprised of description of relevant parts of history textbooks for primary school and analysis of the literature for children and youth (written since 1950 up to the present). The second part is based on a method known as „design-based research“. The thesis describes the process of designing a lesson based on literature for children and youth and the steps in creating the comics for teaching purposes. An interview was chosen as a diagnostic method. The data obtained by the interviews with pupils are qualitatively analysed. The results based on those interviews gave us only partial understanding of this problem and more extensive research is still needed.

KEY WORDS

social studies, teaching of History, primary school, Communism, textbooks, children's understanding of society