

Beáta Akimjaková

Catholic University in Ružomberok

Review of the Publication: *Umělci v mateřské škole* [Artists in Nursery School]

Reviewed publication: Rochovská, I., Krupová, D., *Umělci v mateřské škole* [Artists in Nursery School]. Prague, 2016. ISBN 978-80-262-1120-4, p. 144.

In 2016, the Czech publishing house Portál published a publication entitled *Artists in Nursery School*. Its authors are Ivana Rochovská and Dagmar Krupová. The authors are an excellent example of the theoretical and practical cooperation which can result in specialist publications, in this case dealing with the issue of the interpretation of visual art at a theoretical level, culminating in practical demonstrations of its application in nursery school practice.

As a reviewer of this publication, I can state that it is mainly devoted to teachers in nursery schools, but can be a source of inspiration for all teachers who are trying to convey visual arts to the children of today in a less traditional form, with an emphasis on experience.

The authors themselves state: "One of the aims of this publication is to highlight the importance of using an interpretation of visual arts as a means of creating the basis of visual literacy among children in a nursery school." They have sought to fulfil this objective in the first chapter.

The next chapter deals with a theoretical explanation of the concept of the interpretation of visual art, focusing on the possibility of a pre-primary education. They characterise a verbal and visual interpretation of works of visual art and their specifics in the application within a nursery school.

The core of the publication is the third chapter, consisting of a comprehensive project focused on bringing together different types of visual art to pre-school children, particularly through an interpretation of specific works of art. The project consists of three parts – within the first of which is a central theme, the interpretation of works of a Slovak painter of world renown, Dominik Skutecký; in the second part, the children are familiarised with works by world renowned artists – Rembrandt Harmenszoon van Rijn, Leonardo da Vinci, Vincent van Gogh, Claude Monet, Edvard Munch and Pablo Picasso, and interpret them verbally and visually. The third part focuses on recognition of the work of contemporary Czech and Slovak Fine Arts - Jiří Sopko, Igor Korpaczewski, Blažej Baláž and Igor Kalný.

As we can see, the selection of artwork by world authors is focused on world famous works of art. Also, the authors sought to highlight contemporary Czech and Slovak artists and bring them to the forefront.

The textual part of the whole publication is suitably supplemented by photographs, documenting the procedure during the implementation of activities and images and the artwork of the aforementioned authors. A significant contribution to teaching practice is made by the comprehensive treatment of the theoretical background, focusing on the issues of visual art and the development of visual literacy in a pre-primary education and the issue of the interpretation of visual arts. A practical benefit also lies in the careful processing of the theme and its inspiring pragmatic part, through which this publication will find its readers within a pedagogical community.

Information about the author:

Beáta Akimjaková, PhD.

Faculty of Education, Catholic University, in Ružomberok

Institute of Juraj Páleš in Levoča

Bottova 15

054 01 Levoča

e-mail: beata.akimjakova@ku.sk