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Preschool Pedagogy. The New Core Curriculum

Erica, Warszawa 2010, 376 pages

"Preschool Pedagogy. The New Core Curriculum" is a unique title on the Polish publishing market written by Associate Professor PhD Anna Klim-Klimaszewska. The author manages the Department of Preschool Education in the Institute of Pedagogy, at the University of Natural Science and Humanities in Siedlce. She is the author of over 150 scholarly and popular science publications, which have been published in Poland and abroad. The most important are: "Preschool Pedagogy", "Adaptation to the Preschool Environment", "Support of Children's Adaptation Process to Preschool Environment" and "From the Practice of Preschool Education".

The book "Preschool Pedagogy. The New Core Curriculum" brings up issues that constitute the basis of work with children at a preschool age. This title is intended for teachers, students of pedagogy, parents and for anybody interested in this subject. The author adapted the content to consider the ongoing reforms in the Polish educational system and the requirements that have resulted from adjusting the educational system to the standards of the European Union. The book consists of ten chapters. In the first nine Klim-Klimaszewska presents the theoretical basis of children's education at preschool age. They contain the most important preschool upbringing issues and problems, and give basic information that is indispensable when taking practical action in preschool, which forms the basis of the methodological influences. Readers can get an in-depth insight into a new conceptualization of preschool upbringing in the contemporary educational system, which offers a contrast to the historical background in a number of areas, including: its biopsychological

basis, functioning base, environment organization, pedagogical activity, curriculum content, the preparation of children to start education, as well as the education activity of a teacher and pedagogic innovations in preschool education.

Chapter ten focuses on practice. The author here presents some methodological solutions in the form of lesson plans. Each of them relates to the formation of specific skills of small children. Models of practical solutions worked out by experienced experts on preschool education are presented in these lesson plans, such as The Method of Good Start, by R. Labana, C. Orffa, W. Sherborne, P. E. Dennison's, A. and M. Kniessów.

Klim-Klimaszewska covers new issues in her book: she discusses preschool education in a reformed educational system and in the countries of the European Union, its legal conditions, the teacher training of preschool teachers, their workshop, and also preschool help.

The book is a synthesis of theoretical and practical knowledge about preschool education, disorders, development stimulation, teachers' organizational skills and their creative attitude.

Without doubt I can say that "Preschool Pedagogy. The New Core Curriculum" is a rich guide for preschool teachers for organizing the didactic and educational process, and also for students undertaking teacher training, in that it will help them during classes of preschool pedagogy. Parents can also greatly benefit from this book because they can obtain valuable advice, such as how to prepare their children for preschool education, how to ease children's difficulties when adapting to preschool, understanding the interaction between the preschool and family environments, how to prepare children to take on students' responsibilities, and much more.