Role of Puppet Theater in early child development

Biljana Cvetkova Dimov, PhD
Assistant professor
Daniela Andonovska Trajkovska, PhD
Assistant professor
Introduction

- The paper focuses on the role of the puppet theatre in early childhood development and the power of the puppet play when parents are involved in it.
Importance of puppet theatre

- The appearance of the puppet, puppet play and their animation dates back to a time of the oldest civilizations;

- Today because of the importance of playing with puppets confirmed by numerous authors and researchers, it is used in the process of education and early child development.
Involvement of parents in animation of puppets for puppet shows

- Does parents / families (meaning parents/families of children who are involved in pre-schools institutions and those children who are not included) understand the importance of puppets animation and puppet theater in the process of early childhood development?
Involvement of parents in animation of puppets for puppet shows

- Does parents / families of children who attend and those who do not attend pre-school institutions are taking part in their children play with puppets and do they practice animation of puppets and performance of amateur puppetry in their home?
Research results

- Parents / families in a large percentage believe that children should be familiar with puppet theatre and also they think that puppet theatre has contribution in early childhood development;

- Parents / families often engage in play with puppets of their children in their home;
Research results

- In terms of animating puppets and practicing amateur puppet theaters, the survey showed that the involvement of parents / families in this way is very rarely;

- Parents / families of those children attending pre-schools institutions include only when they need to help their children in the procurement of materials if their children participate as animators in a performance on the occasion of a ceremony organized by the pre-school institution;
Research results

- Percentage of parents / families (parents/families of children who are attending and children who are not attending pre-schools institutions) who practice play with puppets in the form of amateur puppet theater is very small;
- These parents / families who practiced these play at home, has received the idea from their children or from websites, TV shows or after visiting a theater play with puppets.
Workshops

- Workshops that connected the educators, students and parents / families aimed to promote the importance of involvement of parents in the theater with puppets, to able parents / families to acquire certain knowledge and skills and to identify ways to include them in theatrical plays with puppets and implementation of practical activities.
Summary

- What we can summarize by recognizing situations from practice is that the puppet theater is one approach to the process of education which enables children learning through play. Power of play with puppets and realization of puppetry in the process of early childhood development increases if the parents / families are involved in it.