

Assessing the importance of holistic procedures in identifying and encouraging gifted children at an early age

Assistant professor Tanja Nedimović, PhD, Ivana Đorđev, PhD,

Assistant professor Euđen Činč, PhD

Preschool Teacher Training College "Mihailo Palov" Vršac,
Republic of Serbia

Abstract: In this paper, we present the results of research on assessing the importance of procedures based on the holistic approach (*expanding, supporting, modeling, consulting, encouraging children's initiative*), which are used in direct work with children for identifying and encouraging giftedness at an early age in the Republic of Serbia. The total sample consisted of 229 preschool teachers from the territory of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina. The obtained results showed that preschool teachers have very positive attitudes towards the importance of applying these procedures based on the holistic approach to identifying and encouraging giftedness at an early age. When it comes to individual procedures, our results show that preschool teachers believe that *expanding, supporting* and *encouraging* are the most important procedures for identifying and encouraging giftedness at an early age.

Key words: holism, identification and encouragement of giftedness, early age, *The Basics of Preschool Education Program –The Years of Soaring.*