

A szelektív mutizmus kezelésének lehetőségei

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Abstract: This paper examines the possibilities of treatment of selective mutism using speech therapy and special methods for reducing anxiety. Selectively mute children present an age specific development of speech, but refuse to communicate in certain social environments and/or with certain persons. The integration of selectively mute children is a very important issue due to the special attention that these children require from their parents and teachers. The lack of communication does not only affect the development of their speech and language, but also their cognitive and psychosocial development. Thus we considered that it would be important to conduct a study in order to learn more about the possible ethiological factors involved in the development of selective mutism and also to study the factors that could influence the efficiency of therapy. Our goal was to develop a specific method based on speech therapy. Through special games and exercises we intended to reduce the communication-related anxiety, positively reinforcing all forms of communication initiated by the selectively mute children.

Keywords: selective mutism, communication, speech-related anxiety, speech therapy