"The Basket of Books: a playful-pedagogical project with babys and young children from different countries, different ethicities and a different mother tongue"

Although there are significant changes in the social representations and pedagogical conceptions about the educational action with infants, whether in professional and institutional contexts or in others, still today this action is often seen as mere entertainment, in which adults are actors and baby spectators. In the same sense, ludic activity tends to be looked at from the perspective of someone, individual or group, who presents something to the babies as a form of distraction and hobby, using body techniques, musical, artistic, etc ..., but mostly dominated by adults, not calling the action and interaction of babies, for babies.

The project "The Basket of Books: a playful-pedagogical project with babies and young children" is being promoted in a local institution (in the city of Braga, in the North of Portugal), since the academic year 2016/2017, covering all children in the nursery, room 1 and room 2 and seeks to reverse this logic by devising infants as competent social actors, trying to break with the common sense that babies are not competent as readers, that is, they are unable to read and more than that, often is not recognized utility to this kind of work with babies at such a young age.

Using a research-intervention methodology, we use observation, written record of lived experience and the capture of photographic and video images.

This is a project that shows the relevance and possibilities of these practices that give babies (from different countries, with a different mother tongue, from different ethicities) immersion in books and reading and also reflects on ethical issues and the relationship of partnership with parents, institutions and professionals.

In short, books enter in the world of babies and babies enter in the world of books, not without difficulties and obstacles, but with results that help deconstruct the ideas and prejudices of adults who deal with babies in their daily lives.



Andréa Avelar Duarte

ICE – Instituto das Comunidades Educativas