

**PARENT'S TRAINING IN ACTIVATION OF COGNITIVE  
DEVELOPMENT AND OTHER SKILLS OF  
CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL  
NEEDS FROM BIRTH TO 6 YEARS**

MILOSLAVA STARÁ<sup>1</sup>

*Special Kindergarten, Prague  
Czech Republic*

**Abstract:** Support and teaching of parents activate cognitive development of their children, 3 teaching models: (i) Critical stage after birth (0-1 month), individual crisis therapy; (ii) Stage of acceptance (1month -2.5 years), individual up to small groups of parents – learning of basic interaction (mother/father and child), positive feelings, motivations, stimulus, motor development... Program: Portage, Love in hands, video- training, orofacial regulation therapy (ORT Castillo Morales therapy); (iii) Stage of group activation (2.5 – 6 years), complex support of child development, inclusion to peers groups (building social and artistic skills), preparation for success of school inclusion (prevent inclusive failure). Program: speech therapy, ORT, social and artistic therapy, PIT method as training for Feuerstein´s method. Methodical workshops for parents and teachers (publications and newsletter).

**Keywords:** children with Down Syndrome - early interventon, child development, parents' empowerment, cooperation of parents and professionals, methodical workshops – “mini-courses”