



Danijela Horvat Samardžija

Institution: University of Primorska, Faculty of Education

Address: Cankarjeva 5

Postal Code: 6000 Koper

Country: Slovenia

Tel: +39-055-48.97.00

Fax: +39-055-462.88.73

Email: danijela.horvat@pef.upr.si



Danijela Horvat Samardžija was born on 27th 04th 1982 in Novi Sad, Yugoslavia. When she was five years old, her parents and grandparents moved to Koper, where in 1989 she began to attend primary school Janko Premrl Vojka. After eight years that she spent at primary school, she enrolled in Gymnasium in Koper. After finishing Gymnasium in 2001 she enrolled at the Faculty of Education in Koper. In 2006, on 26th April 2006, she graduated in the field of Didactics of Slovenian language and literature. The title of her dissertation was An alternative form of homework in the 4th classroom. For the study she received two awards, the Student Award from the Faculty of Education Koper (15 November 2006) and the reward Kosovel from the University of Primorska (16 March 2007).

In September 2006, has initiated a voluntary traineeship at the Primary School Anthony Ukmar Koper. After only three months of the voluntary training has been given its own class, since her mentor became sick. She began to teach the second grade of primary school. In September 2007, she entered in the new school year with the same class. In addition to his class she had morning care and two extracurricular activities (Wonderful World of books and Colors play), with whom she regularly participated in various projects and sweepstakes. At the end of December 2007, her supervisor returned to work. From January 2008 to mid-April 2008 she has helped in the Registry. But she also had morning care, private lessons and two extracurricular activities. At the end of April 2008 she got a new class, 2nd grade of primary school, which she successfully led to the end of the school year. In the school year 2008/2009, she taught fourth grade of primary school. In addition, the class she had a morning care and interest activity Colors play. In this school year has also taught at the faculty as an assistant for the field of Didactic social sciences. Since 2009, she works only at the University of Primorska, Faculty of Education Koper as an assistant for the field of Didactic social sciences. She establishes new methods of teaching and learning with the students of third and fourth year of Primary school and with the students of the second and third year of Preschool.

In the period from 2006 to 2013 she wrote ten works. In the co-authorship with Vida Medved Udovič she wrote a manual for students entitled Promoting reading interests of students with homework. The manual was published by the Faculty of Education Koper in 2006. In the co-authorship with Vida Medved Udovič she wrote also a scientific article titled Promoting reading and listening to improve reading literacy. This article was published by the Faculty of Education Koper in 2007 in the publication Research views on the development of teaching practice (teaching selected areas). In the publication



entitled Research views on the development of teaching practice (Examples of research professionals in education) in 2007 was published her scientific paper entitled An alternative form of homework. In November 2008 she participated in the international scientific meeting of the Arts and the Curriculum, where she presented a thesis entitled Reading as part of the curriculum. In December 2009, she also participated in the international scientific meeting on Learning and Teaching, where she presented the work entitled Traditional literacy and classic printed material in connection with new media and technologies. In 2011 it published her first article in the Croatian magazine Methodological Horizons titled Alternative and/or traditional way of teaching and evaluation in the 4th grade of nine-year primary school. The same year she participated on two international conferences, the Conference of the International Youth Year, where she presented a paper entitled Learning as a means of developing social and communication links between students and the conference Modern teaching new generations, where she presented a paper entitled Getting estimates using the art folder in the 4th class of primary school. In 2012 she participated on the International Conference The future of education, where she presented the work entitled "Cross-curricular connection in art in the 4th grade of the 9-year elementary school". The same year her work entitled "Cross-curricular connection based on the usage of a puppet" was published in Journal of International Scientific Publications: Educational Alternatives.

The works above deal with new, alternative forms of teaching assessment and evaluation in primary school, in Art (making art folder, which includes products related to the issue of artistic concepts), in Slovenian language (reading homework with the help of different games and student research, writing test - description of an animal by means of literature), in Science and Technology (production portfolio, the folder that contains all of those present and serves as an aid students in learning), in the company (making posters in the group as a way of learning from one another), in Math (compiling handout for other classes as verification of the substance), in Music (playing applications as a means through which students learn classmates new song).

The last 5 years she has been producing didactic games, which can be used in kindergarten and/or elementary school as a learning method. So far, she produced more than 50 didactic games that have been tested with children. Some of these games have been donated to the kindergarten and school.