

First annual technical report
MTA-MATE Early Childhood Research Group

The goal of the program promoting a successful school start to support the transition from kindergarten to school and the development of school readiness, through health and environmental education, as well as habit formation in early childhood.

During the first year of the project (September 30, 2021 - August 31, 2022), we worked on the preparation of the research and methodological development, for this purpose four work teams were created (health education, environmental education, art education, educational assessment).

In accordance with the original schedule in the framework of the project, we have explored the relevant international literature in the subject areas of kindergarten/preschool health education, environmental education and music education, paying special attention to the assessment used in research on these fields. In connection to these issues, international health education standards have been reviewed in search of potential adaptation to Hungarian conditions. We made contacts with the heads of the public education institutions participating in the research. Five professional workshops with preschool and primary school teachers involved in the program as methodological developers were organized in the following topics: collecting habits related to health and environmental education, developing a habit-forming program, defining health education standards and exploring the content dimensions of learning habits.

In addition, we examined the fitting of music education in the habit-forming program. In this context, we carried out cross-sectional studies and developed measures in the field of singing skills and singing motivation.

We drew attention to the relevance of the habit-forming program through six presentations in Hungarian and international conferences, furthermore, four studies were published in highly rated international journals, and three papers in Hungarian journals related to our topics.