

In this seminar I give examples of how to prepare a summer camp for integrated groups of children. There are three parts. In the first part you can find general information on how to prepare a summer camp, more specific information being in the section on specialized literature. The second part deals with the special needs of handicapped children, how to build a suitable environment to meet their physical and mental development needs, which will allow for growth and expression, as well as for non-handicapped children, and allow for friendship and positive interaction between handicapped and non-handicapped children. In the third and main part of this seminar, I describe, day by day, a multi-stage game for integrated groups of children. In this game handicapped children can show their abilities, knowledge, and are given the chance to gain self-confidence. To children without handicaps the game brings knowledge of handicapped children's lives, and helps to develop understanding. Also, it focuses on the physical development of the children, and helps build awareness of life in their country. This helps to decrease the distance between handicapped people and the rest of society. Public attitudes towards people with handicaps are full of misunderstanding and apathy. The purpose of integrated summer camp is also for handicapped and non-handicapped people to meet, and help the future of both groups. The hope is that non-handicapped people who have had interaction with handicapped people early in their lives will have increased understanding and more positive attitudes towards the handicapped into their adulthood.