## **PEDAGOGY**

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## Dry pastels as a means of art therapy in teaching children with autism spectrum disorders

The article discusses the possibilities of using dry pastels in art therapy to correct the mental development of children with autism spectrum disorders, integrate them into public life and develop communication skills. The theoretical foundations of the organization of visual activities of autistic children in conditions of additional education are presented. The results of the study indicate that the proposed system of classes contributes to the aesthetic development and improvement of psychomotor skills in children with autism spectrum disorders. It is shown that pastel drawing can become one of the effective means of self-expression and establishing communication links between autistic people and the outside world. The developed methodology for teaching pastel drawing, based on the search method, will allow you to build a drawing course in such a way as to reduce existing mental deformations and prepare an autistic child for inclusion.

**Key words:** pastel, art therapy, autism spectrum disorders, graphic materials, methodology, sensory and creative possibilities, inclusion, drawing, integrating factor, search method.

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