

## SNAIX Reports/Professional Opinions

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Partial translation: Letter from „Aktion Vorschulerziehung“ to Engelbert Rolli, July 2002

### Field report – Children’s SNAIX walking bike

Since the beginning of May, a group of children from two to ten years has been testing SNAIX walking bikes in two different sizes in our facility.

The bikes were immediately met with great interest when introduced to the children. All of them wanted to try the bikes – from the three year olds to the school children. The bikes were ridden on even surfaces inside as well as on the hilly areas outside. We noticed that the children who were less well developed motorially moved along on the bikes rather stiffly at the beginning and did not use the steering principle coming from the hips. In spite of this, they did not have problems to accept this kind of steering. It was considered extraordinary, attractive and funny, as the following joyful exclamation emphasizes: “This bike has to be steered with the bum!”...

Later on we observed how the children’s movements with the bike grew more fluent and how more and more of them mastered the steering principle. For children who had acquired this experience, the bike lost some of the huge attraction it had had in the beginning and became one toy of many... For other children, some of them less secure motorially, the movement principle remained exciting for a longer time. One of these children (4 years old) made the bike a constant companion.

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In my opinion a greater group of test persons should be analyzed over a longer period of time in order to be able to make statements about a general improvement of motor abilities – statements like those known from SNAIX fitness bike users. Statements in this direction are difficult also because any child within this age group will visibly improve his or her movement sequences within a period of time as short as three months.

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I see a great chance for the bikes in the great motivation to move that it exerts on motorially insecure children...

Anja Rohr (nursery- school teacher)