



At the heart of PEKiP® lies a profound understanding of the importance of family education. It recognizes that a child's first and fundamental bond is forged within the family. The program's pivotal role is to empower and support early parenthood in navigating this intricate and extraordinary transformation by providing help for growing together confidently and promoting well-being. That is why the Prague Parent-Child Program has existed for decades and continues to do so.

## History

The Prague Parent-Child Program, known by the acronym PEKiP®, was originally developed in Germany by Professors Dr. Hans Ruppelt and Dr. Christa Ruppelt for a small group of parents and their babies aged 0-12 months. It was named "Prager Eltern-Kind Programm"(in German) in honor of Dr. Jaroslav Koch's research at the Institute for the Care of Mother and Child in Prague. Dr. Koch had worked with children for nearly five decades, dedicating 25 years to infant psychological research and creating activities to support infants' development.

Building upon Dr. Koch's findings, German professors further developed activities for babies during their first year of life. They established PEKiP® in collaboration with numerous experts and initiated the scientifically-based socio-educational group program, teaching the first group of parents and babies in the early 1970s (PEKiP e.V.).

With a rich history of over 45 years of existence in Germany, PEKiP® has made its way to other European countries, including Austria and Switzerland, in the past decade. It was introduced to the United States in 2015 through Baby Parent Steps and found its first home in Arizona. This well-established and research-based program has been a steadfast source of support for hundreds of thousands of parents and their babies throughout the decades.

As a testament to its effectiveness, PEKiP® remains the most trusted, empowering, and cherished early parenting program among families and communities in German-speaking countries. It continues to guide those embarking on the incredible journey of early parenthood.



