

Kanjana Silpakityan 2006: Effects of Play with Natural Materials on Creative Thinking of Preschool Children. Master of Education (Early Childhood Education), Major Field: Early Childhood Education, Department of Education. Thesis Advisor: Assistant Professor Pattamavadi Lehmongkol, Ph.D. 152 pages. ISBN 974-16-1670-8

The purposes of this research were: 1) to study creative thinking scores of preschool children who participated in play with natural materials, 2) to study creative thinking levels of preschool children who participated in play with natural materials.

Subjects consisted of 30 preschool children ranging in age from 5 - 6 years old and studying in kindergarten level 2 class in the first semester of 2005. They were selected by using simple random sampling technique from Rattanakosinsompoj School, Office of Chatuchak District, Bangkok Metropolis. The research instruments were 24 Plans of Play Experience with Natural Materials, Behavioral Recording Form on Creative Thinking and The Test for Creative Thinking - Drawing Production (TCT - DP) developed by Jellen and Urban. The obtained data were analyzed by Mean, Standard Deviation, Percentage and Dependent t - test.

The results of this research showed that: 1) children who participated in play with natural materials had higher creative thinking posttest scores than creative thinking pretest scores at the level of .01 significance, 2) creative thinking level of preschool children was low before participating in play with natural materials but was moderate after participating in play with natural materials.

Kanjana Silpakityan
Student's signature

P. Lehmongkol
Thesis Advisor's signature

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