

PAPASSARA RATTARUNGSRI : THE DEVELOPMENT OF PRESCHOOL CHILDREN'S

UNDERSTANDING OF PERCEPTION AS A SOURCE OF KNOWLEDGE. THESIS

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The purpose of this thesis was to study the development of understanding of perception as a source of knowledge in preschool children and to compare their ability to understand perception as a source of knowledge in different types of perception.

The results of the study are as follows:

1. The older children were significantly better than the younger ones in their understanding of perception as a source of knowledge. ( $P < .01$ )
2. There was no difference in children's understanding of perception as a source of knowledge in seeing, hearing and touching.
3. 3- and 5-year old children understood perception as a source of knowledge for themselves significantly better than for others in all types of perception. ( $P < .01$ ) But 4-year-old understood perception as a source of knowledge for themselves significantly better than for others in seeing and hearing. Touching was not found to be significantly different. ( $P > .01$ )