
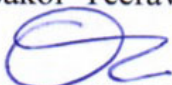
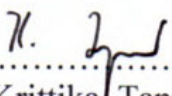


Effect of symbolic representation on children's imagination play

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ABSTRACT

Symbols like pictures or models represent something that is everywhere in modern life. Adults simply and clearly understand symbol-referent relations while it is not easy for children to do so. Therefore, Dual Representation theory is important and challenge to understand children aged 3 to 6 years old. The aim of this research is to determine if children are able to refer a real thing from abstract objects. The study includes how the objects affect children's imagination. Besides, it studies the effect of the decrease of the salience object on the increment of children's imagination and the toy scales that affect children's imagination play. Paper toys are developed as tools to test subjects because they are of low cost and can link between a symbol and the real object for testing children's imagination. Results indicate that children are able to refer abstract paper toys to real things. For the object with manipulation that decreases the salience of symbol as an object, the children are able to use their imagination to solve the problem. However, the object should not decrease the salience of the object until the object lacks 100% of completeness. When the object is not a key for play, the children could not refer to an object as a symbol. Moreover, large-scale objects affect the imaginative development of children.

Keywords: Paper toy / Dual representation / Symbol-referent relations

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