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COOPERATION / PRESCHOOL CHILDREN

RAPEEPORN THUMASARORUT : THE EFFECT OF THE CARTOON BOOK MODEL ON  
REDUCING FEAR AND ENHANCING COOPERATION OF PRESCHOOL CHILDREN UNDERGOING  
INJECTIONS. THESIS ADVISORS: SUNEE LAGAMPAN, M.Sc., Ed.D., SUPREYA TANSAKUL, M.Ed.,  
Ph.D., DUSIT SUJIRARAT, M.Sc. (BIOSTATISTIC) 156 p. ISBN 974-662-795-3

Injection is a traumatic and terrible experience for most children, especially preschoolers. Fear in injection situations can cause great stress. This research uses Bandura's observational learning theory which states that people learn behaviors by watching the behaviors of others and imitating them. A cartoon book is used to model behaviors in this study.

The purpose of this study is to investigate the effect of the cartoon book model on reducing fear and enhancing cooperation of preschool children undergoing injections. Data were collected from 60 children between four and six years of age who were studying at schools attached to the Bangkok Educational Department, Amphur Bangmod, Bangkok Province. Students were divided into the experimental and comparison groups. The experimental group was read to from the model cartoon book which dealt with receiving injection. The comparison group was read to from a similar cartoon book which did not deal with receiving injection. Data were collected using Fear Faces Scale, Fear Behavior Observing Form and Cooperative Behavior Observing Form and analyzed by using t-test and paired t-test.

The result revealed that subjects in the experimental group showed less fear and more cooperation than those in the comparison group. The difference was statistically significant at  $p < 0.05$ . Moreover, the result revealed that subjects in the experimental group who viewed the cartoon book showed less fear and more cooperation than before doing so. The difference was statistically significant at  $p < 0.05$ .

Findings suggest that the model cartoon book would be useful for children who receive injections as well as other frightening treatment procedures such as venipuncture and intravenous fluid administration.