

Thesis Title	The Effectiveness of the Training For Achievement Motive and Positive Reinforcement on Dental Behavior of Prathomsuksa 1 Students
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ABSTRACT

At present, one of the most attentive health problems among Thai Children is dental health problem. According to the Third National Dental Health Survey 1990, it was found that in Bangkok Metropolis, 93.5 percent of the 6-year-old children had dental caries. Therefore, the author was interested in studying the effectiveness of the dental health education program, emphasized on developing achievement motive and providing positive reinforcement, to dental health behavior among Prathomsuksa 1 students aged 5-8 years, in Bangkok Metropolis.

The dental health education program developed was composed of the following activities:- dental-health story telling, demonstration, providing positive reinforcements, and sustaining behavior-activities whereby in-school broadcasting program, billboards, sticker distribution, warning by the group's members, and providing positive reinforcement, had been carried on.

The sampled population was the group of Prathomsuksa 1 students who were selected based on the criteria set. The experimental group and the control group were consisted of 140 and 110 students respectively. The data were collected through the use of 6 instruments. There were 2 steps of data collection. For the first step, the questionnaires and the dental health status evaluation forms were used to assess the variables between before and at the 5th week of the experimentation after the dental health education program has been carried on for 4 weeks. Secondly, the questionnaires and the dental health status evaluation forms were used again to assess the variables between before and at the 14th week of the experimentation, after implementing 6-week-sustaining-behavior program. Percentage, arithmetic means, standard deviation, Student's t-test, Paired Sample t-test and Chi-square Test were calculated.

The results of this study showed that after the implementation of the dental health education program, the experimental group's dental health knowledge has been increased significantly at the fifth week and the fourteenth week when compared to the pretest knowledge score ($P < 0.001$). In regard to

attitudes toward dental health, both post-test scores were higher than of the pre-test significantly ($P < 0.001$ and $P = 0.001$ respectively). It was also found that dental health practice at the fifth week was higher significantly than of the pretest ($P < .05$), but there was no significant difference between the practice at the fourteenth week and the pretest. From the assessment of the oral hygiene through the measure of oral health status, it was found that among the experimental group the score of soft debris was decreased significantly when compared to the pretest score. It can be recommended that teachers/health education instruction of students aged 5-8 years should implement a dental health education program in which a training for achievement motive, providing positive reinforcement, and sustaining-behavior activities are emphasized, in order to help develop desirable dental health behaviors among students.