Thesis Title Effect of Maternal Verbal Stimulation on Language Development in Children age 9-18 Months.

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to study the effect of maternal verbal stimulation on language development of children and searh for an appropriate model to promote child's language development.

The study conducted sixty children age 9-18 months were recruited for the study at two crowded areas of Nakhon-Si-Thammarat pronvince named the Front of Railway Station Community(study group) and the Taephoe Community(control group),each group had 30 children. This two Community are similar in socio-economic characteristics such as occupation,literacy rate,and environment. All of them were normal nutrition, not mentally retarded,and no physical handicaps including the organs for speaking and listening. Children were divided into two groups by pair matching of their sex , age, and birth order. One group was assigned as the study group and another group was the control group. Then each group was divided into three subgroups , 9 to 12 months, 12 to 15 months, and 15 to 18 months. There were 10 children in each subgroup.

Mothers of the study group were trained on technique of verbal stimulation and given the manual. All children in the study group received verbal stimulation from their mothers everyday for 6 months. During this six months the researcher made homevisit and adviced on any problem which may occur in the experiment. The developmental test were performance at pre,3 months,and 6 months of experiment by using TDST (Thai Developmental Screenig Test). The effect of maternal verbal stimulation was measured by comparison of language development and developmental rate between the study group and control group.

Result revealed that children in the experiment group were more advance in language development than children in the control group at both 3 months and 6 months post experiment ($p<0.05$). However,both study group(experimental group and control group) had more progress in language developmental rate during the first 3 months than during the second 3 months.

So , it can conclude that maternal verbal stimulation can improve the language development in slum children and accelerate its rate in this study.