

RESEARCH REPORT

SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN IN PERFORMING GIVEN TASKS

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ABSTRACT

The core of this research was to investigate the different abilities of planning and working memory among autisms and slow learners based on gender, age and parents' occupation. A total of 60 autisms and slow learners from aged 9-14 years old were recruited. The Tower of Hanoi (ToH) and Children Memory Scale (CMS: Dot Location II) were used to assess the abilities of planning and working memory respectively. The result showed that there were no significant differences between autisms and slow learners in both abilities of planning and working memory based on gender and parents' occupation. However, the finding showed significant influence of age in both planning and working memory among autisms and slow learners. Therefore, it is necessary to evaluate the empirical evidence in concerning the differences of cognitive process among the autisms and slow learners and also discovery other factors that may influence the special needs children's performance.



ABSTRAK

Tujuan utama kajian ini adalah untuk mengkaji perbezaan kebolehan merancang dan daya ingatan di kalangan kanak-kanak autism dan slow learner berdasarkan jantina, umur dan pekerjaan ibubapa. Seramai 60 kanak-kanak autism dan slow learner dari umur 9-14 tahun terlibat dalam kajian ini. Tower of Hanoi (ToH) dan Children's Memory Scale (CMS: Dot Location II) digunakan untuk menilai kebolehan merancang dan daya ingatan kanak-kanak. Hasil kajian ini menunjukkan bahawa tidak terdapat perbezaan yang signifikan antara kanak-kanak autism dan slow learner dalam kedua-dua kebolehan merancang dan daya ingatan berdasarkan jantina dan pekerjaan ibubapa. Walau bagaimanapun, dapatan kajian ini menunjukkan bahawa terdapat pengaruh umur yang signifikan dalam kedua-dua kebolehan merancang dan daya ingatan di kalangan kanak-kanak autism dan slow learner. Oleh itu, kajian ini adalah penting untuk menilai bukti empirikal mengenai perbezaan proses kognitif di kalangan kanak-kanak autism dan slow learner, serta penemuan faktor-faktor lain yang mungkin mempengaruhi prestasi kanak-kanak istimewa ini.