

CALIFORNIA SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FAIR 2018 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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Project Number

J0701

Project Title

Teaching Children with Down Syndrome: The Effect of Positive Motivators

Objectives/Goals

Abstract

The objective of my study was to determine if the use of positive motivators would strengthen and enhance the learning capabilities of children with Down Syndrome.

Methods/Materials

Computer for showing videos, videos corresponding with child's identified positive motivators, parent survey, and typed visual aid. Showed five videos in same order every day with spoken and visual concept repeated after each video; outcome measured after every five days of testing for a total of fifteen days. The identified learning concept for this subject was self-control with babies and dogs, and I reinforced the phrase "One time, then all done."

Results

The subject was engaged in the study and she was receptive to the learning concept. Specifically, her behavior was more controlled with each of three successive tests.

Conclusions/Discussion

The use of positive motivators did strengthen the subject's learning capabilities through time, repetition, and routine. If families and educators work together to identify positive motivators for the specific child and use them in the classroom and home, they can enhance the learning capabilities of children with Down Syndrome.

Summary Statement

By identifying and using positive motivators the learning of children with Down Syndrome is enhanced and strengthened.

Help Received

I devised, set-up, and conducted the experiment myself. The subject's mother helped by supervising the subject during the experiment and tests.