

ABSTRACT

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF A PRESCHOOL SOCIAL SKILLS PROGRAM AND A COMPARISON TO A SIMILAR PRIMARY SCHOOL PROGRAM

Current research in the field of social-emotional behavior suggests that early intervention may be the key to providing a barrier against future behavior problems. The current study addresses this issue by conducting a social skills program at the preschool level and comparing this program to a similar program at the primary school level (K-2). The results of this study revealed that social skills programs at the preschool level and primary school level tended to be effective means of reducing aggressive and maladaptive behavior, and increasing social interaction and adaptive behavior. The current study demonstrated that the social skills programs conducted at the preschool level resulted in a significant decrease in aggressive behavior compared to the social skills program at the primary level.

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