

## ABSTRACT

### SOCIAL SKILLS TRAINING: ARE THERE LONG-TERM EFFECTS?

Social skills are considered to be an important building block for social interactions of young children. Social skills training has been found to be an effective method of teaching social skills to young children. The main criticism of social skills training is the lack of evaluation in the literature as to whether or not the skills are maintained over time and generalized to different settings. The current study involved follow-up assessments of 21 children who had previously participated in a social skills intervention while in preschool. The results of this study revealed that children who had participated in the preschool social skills program demonstrated long term maintenance and generalization of positive behavior change in maladaptive and adaptive behavior as measured by the Early Screening Project Stage 2.

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