The Effectiveness of a Counseling Program Based on the Play Activities in the Development of some Social Skills in Kindergarten Child

A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Master's Degree in Counseling Psychology

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Abstract

This study aimed at verifying the effectiveness of a counseling program based on play activities in the development of some social skills in the kindergarten child. A study sample consisting of 40 children between the ages of 5-6 years was selected. The sample was split into 2 identical groups; one being controlled and the other is the experiment group. In order to analyze the sample, the study used a set of tools. First, the list of the social skills assessment of the kindergarten child (prepared by the researcher), where the validity and reliability were verified by applying it on the sample. Second, the training program (prepared by the researcher). After applying the tools, a statistical processing was performed using the SPSS statistical program. The hypotheses then were tested using the T-test, and the improvement ratio equation.

The results of the study showed that the social skills of the experimental group were improved. The study results were as follows; first, there were statistically significant differences within the average scores of the experimental group before and after the implementation of the counseling program. Second, there were statistically significant differences between the scores of the experimental group children and the control group in the post-test of social skills of the kindergarten children. Third, there were no significant differences between the average scores of the control group in the pre-test and post-test of the social skills scale in the kindergarten children. Finally, there were no statistically significant differences between the average scores of the experimental group in the post-test and follow-up test of the social skills scale in the kindergarten children, which indicates the sustainable effectiveness of the instructional program.

Keywords: counseling program, playing activities, social skills, kindergarten children.