Development of social interaction in a child with Autism Spectrum Disorderswho has high linguistic ability - From verbal communication of children during play-therapy -

MARUYAMA Chieko

Graduate School of Science for Human Services, Ritsumeikan University Key words: ASD, social interaction, verbal communication

Abstract: This study examines the social interaction between a child with Autism Spectrum Disorders who has high linguistic ability and a coeval child. The subject's interaction with other child during play-therapy was observed. The interactions of the subject were divided into communication or social interaction according to Bales' category of interaction process analysis. Results showed that the two year and one month period of observation could be divided into three periods: a first period which displayed negative linguistic behaviors such as alignment and affection are displayed; a second period in which the subject displays acceptance of dialogue and exchange of information with other children; and a third period in which positive linguistic behaviors of alignment and affection are displayed. And during the transitional period, characteristic behaviors were observed. The change of negative behaviors in the first period to interaction acceptance in the second period was the result of the child's realizing the others had different ideas. In addition, social interaction changed to more positive negotiation through the exchange of ideas with other child. These findings suggest that an understanding of the ideas of others is important in the development of social interaction.