

Developmental Changes in Late Childhood Through Hand-based Operations Involving Cutting-out Tasks Using Scissors

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This study attempts to hypothesize that late childhood involves a different approach to the operation of tools due to the formation of planning. The author involved young children from 4–6 years old (n=59) by asking them to perform a cutting-out task using scissors, for observation according to three indicators targeting developmental changes in hand-based operation. This research supposes that changes happen when approaching the operation when an objective is specified for the task. This study uses indicative and semantic conditions to examine the changes. The result shows an abrupt change boundary of 60 months for three indicators. In a change due to two conditions, the children aged four years showed a significant change for three indicators. From the results, children aged four years have function differentiation in both hands, although they have not yet formed planning skills. Children of five years have formed planning skills and can approach the task using their own direction. The result implies that an objective helps children of four years of age to form plans.