

Developmental Changes in Children of One Year of Age Through the Operation of Tools

– Focusing on relationships with others –

SHIMOJI Saki

Graduate School of Science for Human Services, Ritsumeikan University

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The purpose of this study is to investigate developmental changes regarding the operation of tools in children of one year of age. In this study, 40 children (aged between 1 year, 0 months and 1 year, 11 months) participated in observations consisting of two parts. The first part involved a drawing composed of two scenes: a circular drawing scene and an Anpanman (a cartoon character from a picture book) drawing scene. The second part involved a block operation composed of two scenes: piling up blocks and tidying up the blocks. Each scene is set to include interactions between children and observers. The results indicate that there is a qualitative change in children aged 1.5 years. Children that have just turned one year of age (1 year, 0–5 months) do not have a “social purpose and means” structure, but positively interact with other people via voice and action. As a result, this presents an action similar to said “social purpose and means” structure. On the other hand, children approaching two years of age (1 year, 6–11 months) do have a stable “social purpose and means” structure. Therefore, they understand the “purpose” (within the “social purpose and means” structure), thus they do not to actively demand interaction with other people.