

PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS AND READING SKILLS OF MALAY PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN AGED 5 AND 6

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to investigate the relationship between phonological awareness skills and reading ability of Malay pre-school children. 20 subjects aged from five to six years old were selected. Phonological awareness test and reading task were conducted. The results showed that there was a strong relationship between phonological awareness skills and reading ability in Malay pre-school children. The six-year-olds demonstrated good performance in all levels of phonological awareness skills (syllable, rhyme and phonemic) compared to the five-year-old children. Children with good phonological awareness skills showed good reading ability. In conclusion, information about children's phonological awareness skills can be a good indicator to their reading ability. This will help in developing treatment programmes to help with the specific needs of children with reading difficulties.

Sumardi, R. 2010. *Phonological Awareness and Reading Skills of Malay Pre-school Children aged 5 and 6*. Bachelor of Speech Science Thesis. Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia.