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Some Social Predictors of Preschoolers' Verbal Creativity¹

Abstract

The article presents new attempt at analyzing preschoolers' creativity. New operationalization of verbal creativity is proposed and empirically tested. This approach consists of such elements as fluency, novelty, neologisms, logic and cohesion in the story, emotionality, a sense of humor and a number of characters in the story. Differences in verbal creativity were assessed due to parents' SES which is also not a well-studied topic in the field.

The article presents the study of 5-year-old preschoolers' verbal creativity and its social conditions. There was an attempt to analyze the differences between children's verbal creativity and to indicate predictors of this kind of creativity. It was shown that there are few differences in telling stories between children from private and state preschools and between girls and boys. The most significant differences appeared between children whose parents have a higher and a lower education. Socio-economic status as an important explanatory variable needs more attention in future studies.

Keywords: *verbal creativity, social perspective in creativity studies, fairytales/stories, the Storyline method*

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