ABSTRACT

THE EFFECT OF FINGER PAINTING TOWARD THE COGNITIVE AND FINE MOTOR CHANGES IN CHILDREN WITH AUTISM IN CAKRA AUTISM CENTER SURABAYA

Pra-Experimental Research (One-group pra-post test design)

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Introduction: Cognitive and fine motor delaying is common thing in children with autism. Fine motor activity is component that supports cognitive, social and emotional development. Motoric ability development which is in order and correct will develop the children cognitive ability, so that it can form optimally cognitive ability.

Method: Pra-experimental one-group pre-post design was used as method in this research. The population was 18 children in Cakra Autism Center Surabaya, and the sample collected by purposive sampling technique was 6 respondents. Independent variable was finger painting, while the dependent variable was cognitive and fine motor in children with autism. It was analyzed using Wilcoxon Signed Rank Test on signification $\alpha = 0.05$.

Result: There is an increasing of cognitive and fine motor in children with autism before and after the giving of finger painting intervenes. The result that was obtained cognitive ($p=0.023$) and fine motor ($p=0.024$).

Discussion and conclusion: Finger painting can be used as other alternatives to increase the cognitive and fine motor in children with autism. Cause finger painting is one of stimulation of cognitive and fine motor to remember of mixing the colors and basic techniques, while the soft muscle of the finger can be increase. For the future research, the writer suggests that finger painting can be used to asses for the development of children with autism not limited to the cognitive and fine motor only.

Key words: finger painting, autism, cognitive, fine motor