

Logographic Reading Skills In Children

Mythra Jagdish

Student, A.I.I.S.H, Mysore.

The aim of the study was to determine whether children demonstrate logographic reading skills during the initial stages of learning to read.

Logographic reading has been postulated as an early stage of reading acquisition by current theories in the area. However, the few empirical studies carried out have produced equivocal results. Further, these investigations have been mainly carried out in English in Europe and North America.

45 preschool children in three groups each, in the age range 2-3 $\frac{1}{2}$ years, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ years, and 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ years were the subjects for the study. 47 items (which consisted of familiar television advertisements) were presented to the children in four formats and their responses noted. The data was tabulated and the statistical and qualitative analysis was done.

The results indicated the presence of logographic reading skills and a developmental trend in the acquisition of reading skills.

However, the study needs to be carried out on a larger population, with more varied stimuli and older children be included to identify the age at which logographic reading skills are overtaken by new strategies.