

Article Review

Complete APA bibliographic reference:

Byrne, B., & Fielding-Barnsley, R., (1989). Phonemic awareness and letter knowledge in the child's acquisition of the alphabetic principle. *Journal of Educational Psychology*, 81 (3), 313-321.

Three to five descriptor terms that best describe the topic:

Main: alphabetic principle, phonemic awareness

Type of Article:

Quantitative Research

Levels:

Kindergarten

Briefly stated major purpose(s) of the study:

Find out how a child might gain insight in the alphabetic principle.

Research article –

“A child who knows how to read a small group of words that differ in just a single letter will understand the role of those letters in unknown words if he or she also knows that the phonemes these letters represent are separate segments in their respective words, that the same phonemes also occur in other words, and the particular association between the distinguishing letter and phonemes in the known word group” (313).

Quantitative Study Information:

Independent Variables Included:

Kindergarten

List Dependent Variables

A forced-choice between two words that one of the words already had been taught.

Treatment:

Experiment 1 – students were trained to read two phrases in a symbol system constituted of colored geometric forms.

Experiment 2 – preliterate children hardly ever spontaneously acquired alphabetic insights as a result of learning to read small word families.

Experiment 3, 4, 5 – explored in more detail the roles of phonemic segmentation and segment identify in promoting insights into the alphabetic principle.

Is reliability information reported? No

Is validity information reported? No