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Entertaining Education

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Entertaining Education: Interactive Learning on Kindergarten Children

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GPS: Ignorance is NOT Bliss

Advisors: Prof Joseph Beck (CS), Prof Robert Traver (US), Mariana Vertoni (PLA)

Problem

- Kindergarten students have a maximum attention span of 30 minutes
- Short attention spans limit instruction time
- Insufficient basic skills cause problems in later education

Solution

Use a stuffed toy with an interactive lesson to improve attentiveness

Method

Students read along with a storybook while interacting with the toy

Page #2- “Touch & count Gompy’s 2 eyes”

Testimonial

“I was amazed by the improvement in not only attention span but overall interest in the subject being taught.”

-Kimberly Higgins

Interactive Toy

The spelling of Gompy’s name was changed for pronunciation.

Cost/Benefit

-$20 per book
-$200 for toys per class

-More incentive to pay attention
-Relating to lesson helps retention

Assessment/Results

- Students were given a pre-test following a regular lesson
- Post test given after interactive lesson
- Teacher survey filled out for each student during each lesson
- Lowest student score increased from 68% to 100%
- Student attention and interest in the material improved
- Trial was successful

Acknowledgement

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- WPI IRB

References