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Cognitive Abilities of Pre-School Children of Bagar Zone of Haryana

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KEY WORDS: Cognition. Abilities. Perception. Classification. Spatial Relations.

ABSTRACT The present study was conducted in Bagar zone of Haryana State on 600 children in the age group of 3-6 years, out of which 300 were from rural and 300 from urban areas. A standardized test was used to study cognitive abilities of children. Results indicate that all the three aspects of cognition i.e. perception, classification and spatial relations increase steadily from 3-6 years of age. Further, no differences were observed in the male, female as well as rural, urban cultures for all the aspects of cognition in all the age groups.

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Table 1: Mean and standard deviations of scores on different items by age for the Bagar zone (N=600)

<i>Test items</i>	<i>Maximum possible score</i>	<i>Age in years</i>				
		<i>3- 3 ½ (120)</i>	<i>3 ½ -4 (120)</i>	<i>4- 4 ½ (120)</i>	<i>4 ½-5 (120)</i>	<i>5-6 (120)</i>
Perception						
Object matching	10	22.55 + 0.89	3.45 + 1.20	4.35 + 0.48	6.35 + 0.58	7.60 + 0.69
Object assembly						
a) Body parts	5	1.65 + 0.73	2.15 + 1.07	3.00 + 0.66	3.30 + 0.82	4.00 + 0.58
b) Puzzles	5	1.00 + 0.83	1.10 + 0.92	1.65 + 0.80	2.40 + 0.92	3.31 + 0.74
Discrimination						
a) Texture	3	0.98 + 0.57	1.37 + 0.59	1.65 + 0.58	1.70 + 0.68	2.43 + 0.67
b) Object	5	1.95 + 0.89	2.75 + 0.90	2.89 + 0.57	3.15 + 0.86	3.90 + 0.68
Classification	5	1.05 + 0.55	2.25 + 0.89	3.85 + 0.81	4.00 + 0.59	4.45 + 0.81
Spatial Relations						
a) Directionality	4	1.30 + 0.73	1.85 + 0.94	2.80 + 0.57	3.45 + 1.25	3.81 + 1.15
b) Draw-a-face	5	1.55 + 0.98	2.61 + 0.57	2.89 + 1.02	4.10 + 1.35	4.45 + 0.98
c) Mapping	5	1.73 + 0.68	2.90 + 0.83	2.97 + 0.66	3.14 + 1.13	4.45 + 0.82

Table 2: Cognitive abilities of pre-schoolers by sex and cultural setting

<i>Aspects</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Cultural setting</i>
Perception	0.8102	0.3544
Classification	0.8451	0.4904
Spatial relation	0.9249	0.7818

Table 3: Frequency distribution of respondents according to sex and cultural setting of Bagar zone

<i>3- 3 ½ years</i>		<i>Below average</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Above average</i>
Urban				
	Male (30)	8	16	6
	Female (30)	9	15	6
Rural				
	Male (30)	11	14	5
	Female (30)	13	13	4
3 ½ - 4 years				
Urban				
	Male (30)	7	14	9
	Female (30)	7	16	7
Rural				
	Male (30)	9	13	8
	Female (40)	10	13	7
4 ½ years				
Urban				
	Male	8	15	7
	Female	8	16	6
Rural				
	Male	9	16	5
	Female	8	17	5
4 ½ - 5 years				
Urban				
	Male	10	14	6
	Female	10	13	7
Rural				
	Male	8	18	4
	Female	10	17	3
6- 6 years				
Urban				
	Male	6	19	5
	Female	7	18	5
Rural				
	Male	7	20	3
	Female	8	18	4

