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Title of Thesis: A study of the effects of sensory integration therapy on academic achievement and overall adjustment of the children with learning disabilities in inclusive institutions of Delhi.

ABSTRACT

Findings:

High degree of improvement was obtained in all the dimensions of academic performance (reading, writing, sequencing, mathematics) after intervention.

Significant improvement was obtained in all domains of adjustment (social, emotional and behavioural, motor, cognitive and attention span.) after intervention.

Sensory integration therapy was found to be very effective in bringing improvement in academic achievement and overall adjustment of a learning disabled child.

It was concluded that sensory integration therapy is an effective option to be included in all inclusive settings for the children with special needs, it is found very efficient in bringing positive changes in children with learning disabilities. It can help them in achieving their educational goals. The inclusive settings should promote the use of the therapy for the special needs children, it should be included part of the curriculum. This therapy must be provided in the play way manner, which will be liked and enjoyed by children.

Sensory integration therapy is useful in acquiring social skills, appropriate behaviour and enhances the classroom performance of the special needs children.

The present study was an experimental type of research. The research design used was pre-test post-test, single subject design. The study used both qualitative and quantitative techniques. The study was conducted in two phases, the data was collected before intervention and then after the gap of eight months, after intervention.

The population was consists of all learning disabled children.

The procedure adopted for sampling was purposive sampling. In all 80 students were selected as sample subjects, they all were identified as learning disabled by the experts in the age group of 9-14 yrs.

The following tools were used to carry out the study.

RCI Checklist:

This was an adapted observational checklist for the checking of basic infrastructure requirements in an inclusive set up.

Sensory Integration Checklist:

This is an observational checklist; it is made by the researcher for checking the presence of necessary equipments which should be present in the inclusive set-ups for providing sensory integration therapy.

Scale for identifying the difficulties faced by learning disabled children in academic achievement:

This scale was developed by the researcher to assess the achievement of the child in different academic areas. It consists of four sections

Adjustment Rating Scale was also used to assess the adjustment of learning disabled children.