

Abstract

Autistic children have deficit in pretend play and theory of mind. According to the metarepresentation deficit theory, the ability to pretend and theory of mind capability are connected as the same metarepresentational mechanism is believed to underpin both abilities. This study tested the effectiveness of a training program on pretend play. Single case design was used and there were four autistic children participating in this study. The training involved eight sessions of training. The result showed that only one out the four autistic children had made improvement in both pretend play and theory of mind capability. Explanations were given to understand the results and suggestions for future study were made.