

WHY HUMOROUS PICTURE BOOKS FOR YOUNG CHILDREN?

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ABSTRACT

This research aims to explore children's reaction to humorous picture books, and discuss the difference between young children's and the adults' humorous concepts. With the analysis of preschool educators' humor presenting through picture books, the researcher used the picture book "No, David" to proceed the pretest, and found that in the process of telling a story, the children may be affected by the partners who surround them. Therefore, one to one formally reciting story was conducted (totally 20 children) with 5 picture books, including "Gorilla", "Lost My Dad", "Crocodile and Dentist", "I've become a fire-breathing dragon!" and "The Monster of Palapala Mountain". In the research, through text analysis, it is found that exertion of humor technique corresponds to children's perception of humor. And, the elements of humor, including arrangement of repeated sentences, someone's embarrassing situation in the plot, imagination and exaggeration against common facts, and the images close to real life experiences that guide the children towards education, picture in picture (or words in words), and so on, make children feel fun and interesting. On the other hand, they can also learn the adult's humor is based on enhancing interpersonal relationship, which differs from the children's sense of humor that stresses on self-recreation.

Keywords: Young Children, Humor, Literature, Picture Books.