

Abstract

The present study was conducted to determine the efficacy of Son-rise program on socialization of 14 children with Autism. They were equally divided into two groups: control and experiment with four females and three males in each category. Both the groups were matched on age and birth order. Developmental Assessment Guide was used to assess the four domains of socialization (eye contact and non verbal communication, verbal communication, interactive attention span and flexibility) in each group; before and after the therapy. Inter-rater reliability was determined through parent/ teacher rating along with the researcher's own rating. After the completion of pre-assessment, the six-week intervention plan was implemented on experimental group only. Later post assessment was completed for both the groups. The results concluded that the experimental group had shown improvement in socialization. 5 of the children with autism had shown a marked change following the treatment while two children having autism had a slight difference in pre and post assessment. Although all the domains seemed to have positive results but flexibility and interactive attention span had much better findings as compared to the other domains. The control group on the other hand remained stable in the pre and post ratings. It was also summarized that both the raters have high inter-rater reliability, ranging from $r = 0.70-0.98$. These preliminary findings are encouraging and pave the way for further research examining the effects of the Son-Rise approach. However, the Son-rise program can be implemented more intensively to have better results.

Keywords: Autism, socialization, son-rise.