

The relationship between play levels and sibling status: Only versus second birth order children.

This study examines the play levels of children who have older siblings compared to children who do not have any siblings. An early childhood play rating scale (PIECES) was used to determine the play levels of the children. Sixteen children who ranged in age from 24 to 48 months of age were observed during free play time in a play lab. The children's play was coded using PIECES Core and Supplemental Subdomains and comparisons were made between the children in the 'only-child' condition and the 'second-birth-order' condition. Although the mean Core, Problem Solving, and Discrimination/Classification Subdomain play levels were higher for the second-birth-order group, results indicate there is not a significant difference between groups.

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