
Reactions to "Frustration" of Mentally Retarded Children as Measured by the Rosenzweig P-F Test

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ABSTRACT

The present study is an attempt to test the hypothesis that the level of intelligence is a factor in the particular mode of reaction to frustration.

One hundred and two subjects aged 6 through 13 were selected from schools in central Oklahoma on the basis of their scores on the California Test of Mental Maturity. Only those individuals with scores of 80 and below were included.

The frustration instrument used was the Rosenzweig Picture-Frustration Study. This test is a limited projective technique designed to assess reactions to a variety of stress situations. The form for children (4 through 13 years) was used. The test was administered individually to the 6-7 age group and in small numbers (ranging from 5 to 9) for the age groups 8 through 13.

t tests between the six factors, E, I, M, O-D, E-D, N-P, and the GCR were made between the experimental group and the Rosenzweig norms. Significant differences were found in the direction of aggression for the 8-9, 10-11, and 12-13 year groups. Further analysis indicated a retardation of reaction for the experimental group rather than a basic differ-

ence in mode of reaction. It was indicated that for specific age groups a different form of behavior might be expected, but that this was due probably to the rate of socialization rather than lack of socialization.
