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A Position Paper on Preschool Experience vs. No Preschool Experience: Long Term Effects on Academic and Social Readiness of Children

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PRESCHOOL EXPERIENCE VS. NO PRESCHOOL EXPERIENCE: LONG TERM EFFECTS ON ACADEMIC AND SOCIAL READINESS OF CHILDREN

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RESEARCH QUESTION


What are the benefits of preschool education for children from low-income families?




KEY POINTS

- ▶ Long Term Benefits
 - ▶ Quality Programs
 - ▶ Wraparound Services
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LONG TERM BENEFITS

- ▶ Maintain grade level proficiency
 - ▶ Improve language and social skills
 - ▶ Reduce drop out rate
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QUALITY PROGRAMS

- ▶ Teacher to Student Ratio
 - ▶ Educated and Experienced Teachers
 - ▶ Accredited programs
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WRAPAROUND SERVICES

- ▶ Extended support to students of poverty
 - ▶ Services include: mental services, medical care, subsidized meals, tutoring, family literacy classes, parenting skills classes, and adult mentoring programs.
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METHOD


- ▶ Review previous case studies, research projects, and data relating to thesis topic
 - ▶ Observation of students
 - ▶ Review data on students
 - ▶ Compare and contrast previous research and data with students data, and observations
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RESEARCH FINDINGS

- ▶ Social skills are equally as important as academic skills
 - ▶ Need for programs geared towards 3 to 5 year olds
 - ▶ Increase access to wrap around services
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CONCLUSIONS


Comparison of Classroom Observations to the Literature

- ▶ Connection between poor parenting skills and families of low-income status
 - ▶ Both included a high level of suspension and expulsion rate for students
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REFERENCES

Barnett, W. S., & Frede, E. (2010). The promise of preschool: Why we need early education for all. *American Educator*, (1), 21. Retrieved from <http://search.ebscohost.com>

Bodovski, K., & Youn, M. (2011). The long-term effects of early acquired skills and behaviors on young children's achievement in literacy and mathematics. *Journal of Early Childhood Research*, 9(1), 4. Retrieved from <http://search.ebscohost.com>



REFLECTIONS

The research provided a concrete foundation for reasons why it is important to send all children to preschool, and provided information regarding the long term negative effects on children and the community when the opportunity to attend preschool cannot be obtained.

