**Evaluating potential creativity among children aged 5-6 years in the Arab society in Israel: Successes and difficulties**

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‘EPoC’ (Evaluating Potential Creativity) is an innovative tool for measuring the potential for creativity among children aged 5-18. The tool tests divergent thinking and convergent thinking in verbal and graphic areas. EPoC is considered a very important tool for assessing the effects of programs and activities in developing productive thinking skills. EPoC is implemented in two sessions of 45 minutes each, while the time between sessions is at least one week.

The present study involved approximately 100 children, aged 5-6, in the Arab population of Israel, in the Northern and Haifa districts. The purpose of the study was to test the levels of verbal and graphic divergent and convergent thinking using EPoC, and to examine the successes and difficulties encountered by the children during implementation.

In order to achieve the aims of the study, the researchers used EPoC to examine verbal and graphic divergent and convergent thinking (creative potential), and a documented portfolio to record the successes and difficulties experienced by the students during the test. The findings showed different levels of verbal and graphical divergent and convergent thinking in relation to different demographic variables among children aged 5-6. It was also found that, for children aged 5-6, the tool cannot be applied as is described in the manual, but should undergo pedagogic adaptations with pedagogical flexibility in order to ensure the success of the test.

**Key words**: Potential creativity in childhood, Divergent thinking, Convergent thinking.