9th EUROPEAN CONFERENCE FOR RESEARCH ON LEARNING AND INSTRUCTION

BIENNIAL MEETING

28th August – 1st September 2001, Fribourg, Switzerland

ABSTRACTS

'Up over ten': An investigation of young children's strategy choices and task performances in the domain of simple addition using the "choice/no choice" method, by Joke Torbeyns

This study focused on young children's strategy choices, in relation to task performance, when solving simple addition problems up to 20. Seventy-eight second-graders, divided in 3 groups according to general mathematical ability, solved a series of 25 simple addition problems in 3 different conditions. In the first condition, subjects could choose whatever strategy they wanted to solve each problem. In the second and the third condition, subjects were asked to solve all problems by means

of 1 particular strategy. The results demonstrate a great within-subject variability in strategy use, as well as strong differences in strategy choice and task performance between the 3 ability groups.