

MY OWN PAST: AN EXAMPLE OF FAMILY INVOLVEMENT PROJECT APPLIED TO IMPROVE 48 – 54 MONTHS OLD CHILDREN’S PERCEPTION OF THE PAST

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ABSTRACT

Preschool period is highly important in the sense that children generate their individual identity and perceptions related to their own past. In addition, based on the principle that learning experiences start from children’s close environment to far; considering “proofs” such as daily objects, clothes, photo album and verbal witnessing students have an opportunity to create their own past and constitute a historical narration. Built upon this theoretical framework, the study makes use of pretest – posttest without control group model. Teacher Observation Form was adopted as a pretest in order to determine 48 – 54 months old thirteen children’s the perception of the past, who constituted the research group of Prof. Dr. Ayla Oktay’s Application Unit at Atatürk Education Faculty at Marmara University during 2012 – 2013 Academic Year. As for the application of the study; within an hour allocated for them in the company of their families, students made presentations in front of their friends regarding their own past using things, clothes, photos, etc. from their

infancy. Posttest which was based on Teacher Observation Form showed that consisting family involvement and project based application process resulted in significant changes in terms of students' perception of the past.

Key Words: Preschool, Perception of the Past, Historian Skills, Project Based Learning, Family Involvement