Participants:
- The quality of social interactions at pre-test were very similar between groups.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>n</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Age (years)</th>
<th>Diagnosis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intervention</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>6 males</td>
<td>Range=13-21</td>
<td>7 children with ASD *₁</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3 females</td>
<td>Mean=16.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Control</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7 males</td>
<td>Range=9-16</td>
<td>6 children with ASD *₂</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 female</td>
<td>Mean=14.1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*₁ One child had a psychiatric disorder, one child had a severe developmental disability
*₂ Two children had psychiatric disorders

Methods:
- Randomized control trial
- Pre-test, post-test design
- 8 week summer program
  - Intervention group: goal-directed after school program focusing on social interaction skills
  - Control group: typical after school program with no goal directed activities

Evaluation Tool:
The Evaluation of Social Interaction (ESI)
- Assesses the quality of social interaction of an individual in a natural context.
- 4-point rating from scale on 27 items
- Standardized with strong psychometrics

Evaluation Process:
Children were observed during activities:
- In school
- On the playground
- In residential houses

Primary Intended Purpose and Sample Social Exchanges Observed:
- Conversing/Small Talk (with teachers, during snack, on the swings)
- Collaborating/Producing (in-class activities, arts & crafts, after school games)
- Sharing Information (about the weather, other students, during circle time)

Intervention Program:
- 1 hour/day after school 5 days/week for 8 weeks.
- Goal-directed activities aimed at improving social interaction skills
- Evaluation results determined targeted social skills
- Familiar childhood games were used to provide natural context of play.

Results:
We found no significant difference between intervention and control groups from pre to post testing.

Future Considerations:
- Participants must be aware of their goals
- Participants should assist in goal planning and intervention strategies
- Integrate social interaction facilitation into natural context.
- More opportunities for social interaction throughout the day

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