

## Abstract

The present study was to examine the relation of age, emotion categories to recognition of facial and vocal expression in Chinese children. One hundred and sixty-two Hong Kong Chinese children (80 boys and 82 girls) of all ages between four and eleven participated in the study. There were two parts in the experiment, facial and vocal part. Six basic emotions (happiness, sadness, anger, fear, surprise, and disgust) in facial expression and four emotions (happiness, sadness, anger, and fear) in vocal expression were tested. Results showed that children's recognition ability of both facial and vocal expression of emotions improved with age as well as varied with different emotion categories. Among the emotions in both kinds of expression, happiness was the most easily recognized emotion. Confusion between anger and disgust as well as fear and surprise in facial recognition, and irregular confusion pattern in vocal recognition were found.