

Abstract

Various issues on the relations between children's abilities to perceive emotions in music and in facial expression, empathy and the effect of music training were investigated. A total of 100 Chinese children in grade 2 participated in this study. Results showed that the face emotion perception ability was significantly and positively associated with the music emotion perception ability. In addition, it was found that girls score significantly higher than boys on empathy. Also, it was found that children who have received music training score significantly higher for the emotion perception abilities in facial expression and in music. The newly developed scale, the Music emotion perception scale, was found to be reliable and valid in measuring children's perception of others' emotions.