PSYCHOLOGY WITH PROFESSOR CORINNA MARTARELLI

TALKING POINTS

KNOWLEDGE:
1. How many children were involved in Corinna’s study?
2. What were the different settings and media types involved?

COMPREHENSION:
3. How does comparing virtual reality with other educational methods help determine influences on a young child’s recall?

APPLICATION:
4. How might the theoretical findings from Corinna’s study have practical applications for teaching in the future?

ANALYSIS:
5. What do you think about virtual reality being used as an educational tool in the future? Can you think of the potential advantages and disadvantages associated with using VR headsets in the classroom?
6. What are the main differences between Lucas’s and Olivier’s answers? How might their different roles have influenced these differences? Which of their roles appeals to you the most, and why?

EVALUATION
7. How are the initial results of Corinna’s study different to what she had anticipated? Why is she not disappointed by this? In what way does Corinna see this as an opportunity for further study?

CREATIVITY:
8. If you had to find a new way of determining whether virtual reality was an effective tool for educating young children in the classroom, how would you go about it? You can use Corinna’s experiment as inspiration, but try and come up with an original idea.

ACTIVITY

In Corinna’s research, a story about Maxi and his mother was used as a theory of mind task (look back to article to remind yourself of the story). The purpose of this story is to determine whether a child has a ‘theory of mind’ and is able to make a distinction between their own knowledge and the knowledge of others.

• Can you create a theory of mind task based on similar principles?

• You will have to consider how your story presents information that the reader/listener will know but that a character, like Maxi, does not.

• If you can, share your story with younger students or relatives and see how they respond. Are they old enough to have developed ‘theory of mind’ yet?

MORE RESOURCES

The British Psychological Society provides some useful information about becoming a psychologist: www.bps.org.uk/public/become-psychologist

History of Psychology
This Introduction to Psychology from Lumen Learning (www.courses.lumenlearning.com/wsu-sandbox/chapter/history-of-psychology) is truly fascinating and helps show how far the field has advanced in a relatively short space of time. The advances bode well for the future.