

Adaptative behavior of children and youth with visual impairment attending Camp Abilities Switzerland: Pilot project

Yumi Graf Valerie Caron (1) , Lauren Lieberman (2), (3)

(1) Special Education Department, University of Fribourg, Master student, St-Pierre Canisius 17, 1700
Fribourg, Switzerland

(2) Special Education Department, University of Fribourg

(3) The College at Brockport, State University of New York, USA

Type of Contribution:

Age Range Elementary, Middle School

Population Visual Impairment

Physical Activity Visual Impairment

Session Activity Poster Session

Introduction: Adaptive behavior (AB) is a multidimensional concept that includes many skills such as life skills, communication, social, and motor skills that enable individuals to function independently and optimally in their environment. Research has indicated that the motor and adaptive skills of youth with visual impairment (VI) may be inferior to their sighted peers. In addition, motor skills are predictive of adaptive skills. To address these challenges, since 1996, Camp Abilities has been an international university summer camp for youth with VI that provides motor and adaptive skills training through a variety of instructions of sports and an expanded core curriculum during an annual week. However, to date, few studies are available on the AB of athletes participating in Camp Abilities. **Objectives:** The purpose of this pilot project is to assess the AB of athletes participating in Camp Abilities Switzerland. **Methods:** Twenty participants were assessed using the Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scale-Second Edition. **Results and Perspectives:** Preliminary results lead to the identification of weaker adaptive skills as well as research perspectives.