UC Merced

Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society

Title

The Role of Sketch Quality and Visuo-Spatial Working Memory in ScienceAccuracy

Permalink

https://escholarship.org/uc/item/6dx520nm

Journal

Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, 41(0)

Authors

Miller-Cotto, Dana Hallinen, Nicole Booth, Julie

Publication Date

2019

Peer reviewed

The Role of Sketch Quality and Visuo-Spatial Working Memory in Science Accuracy

Dana Miller-Cotto

University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, United States

Nicole Hallinen

Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States

Julie Booth Ph.D.

Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States

Abstract

Sketching is often a helpful strategy for solving science problems. We examined the role of visuo-spatial working memory and sketching in predicting science problem solving accuracy. Sketches were coded for quality based on whether they included elements and relationships in the sketches. Regression analyses were done regressing working memory on to science problem solving. A mediation analysis was also conducted to determine whether sketch quality mediated the relationship between working memory and science accuracy. Findings are discussed in terms off implications for education and classroom instruction.