



# How sixth graders' represent mathematics concepts with drawings

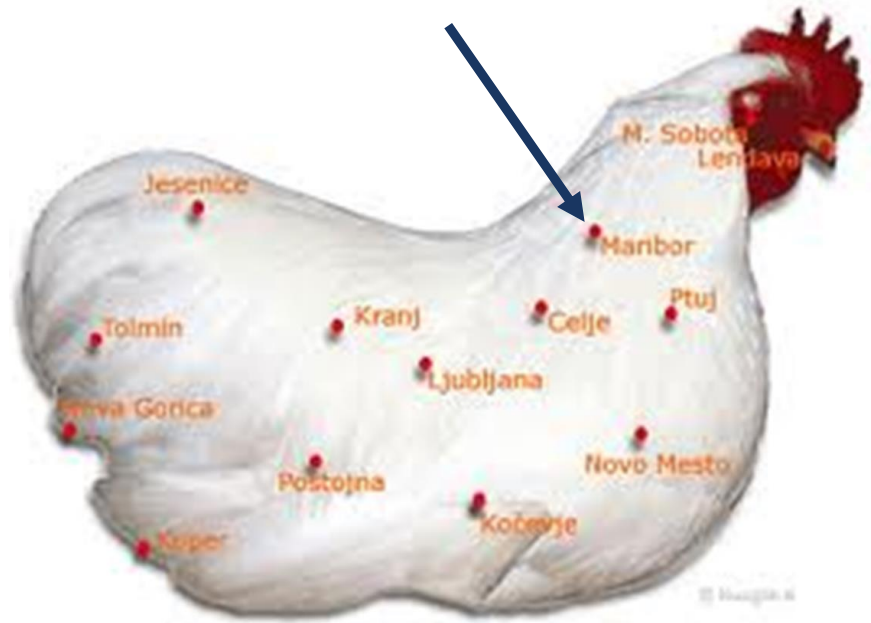
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8ECM, June 2021, Portorož, Slovenia



# University of Maribor

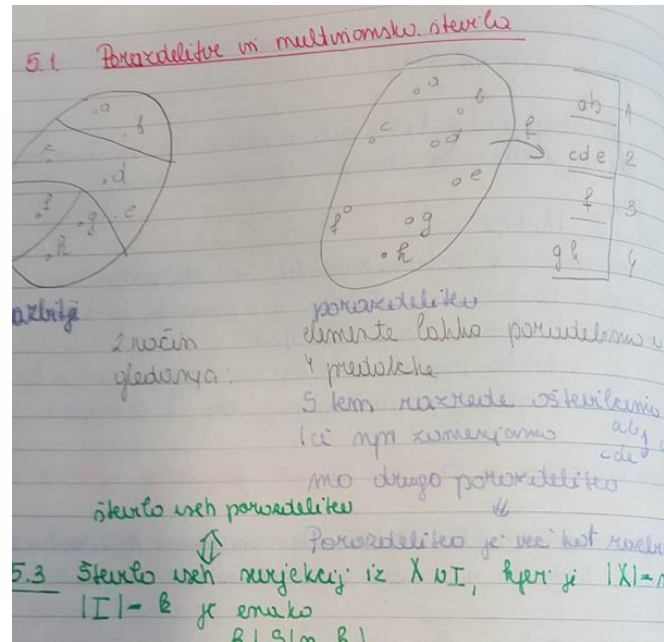






# External are the interesting ones!

Enactive/**iconic**/symbolic (Bruner, 1966)



$$\sqrt{-1} \quad 2^3 \quad \Sigma \quad \pi$$

and it was delicious!



# Relevance for education

Very important (Bishop, 1973; Clements, 1981; Arcavi, 2003; .... Duval, 2014, ...Presmeg, 2020)

Positive effect on achievement, teachers should use them more often (Güler & Çıltaş, 2011; David & Tomaz, 2012; Ryve et al., 2013; ...). No influence on achievements (Sowel, 1989). Can have negative impact on achievements (De Bock et al., 2007; Presmeg, 2014). ICT environments (Archer et al., 2014; Engelbrecht et al., 2020) Effect depends on students abilities (Gersten et al., 2009), content (Leikin et al., 2014), age (English, 1993 vs. Beitzel et al., 2011), gender (Lowrie & Diezman, 2011)

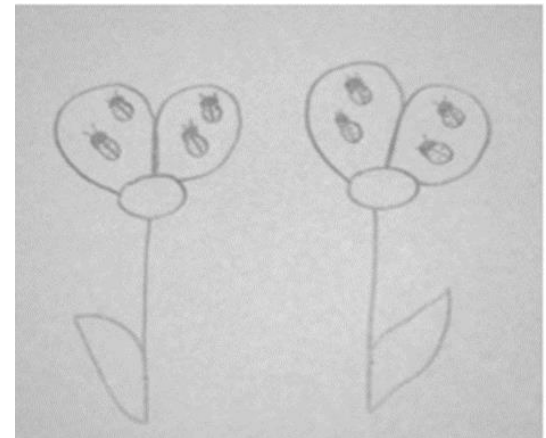
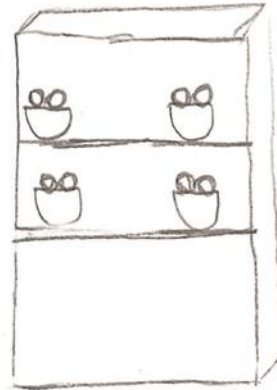
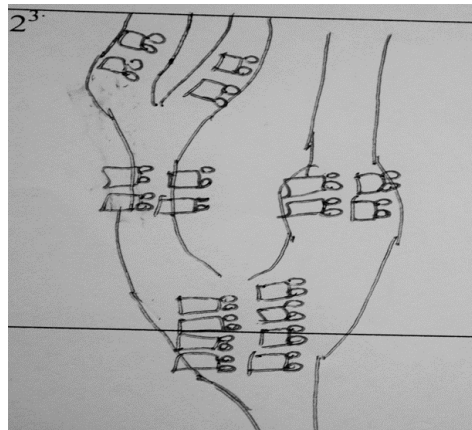
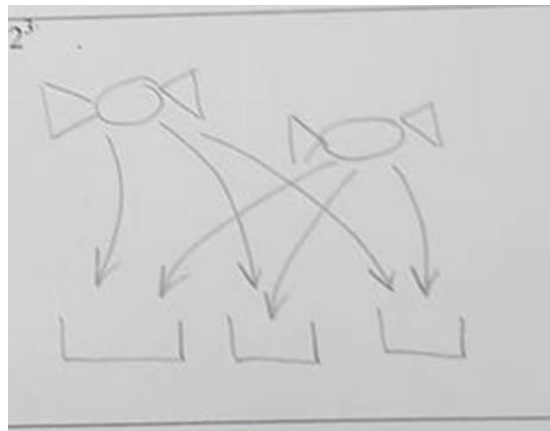
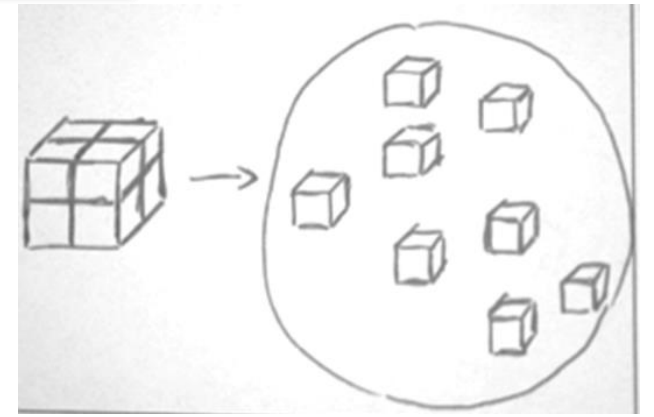
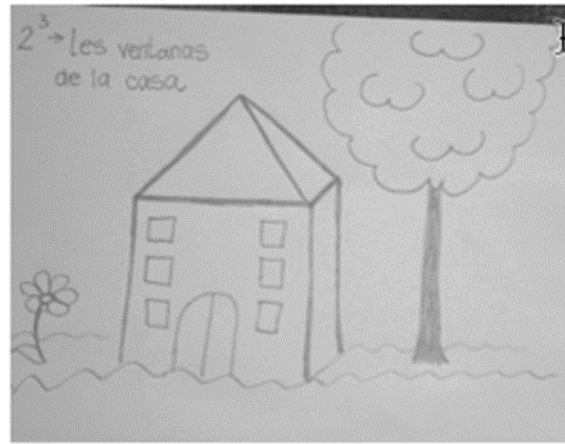
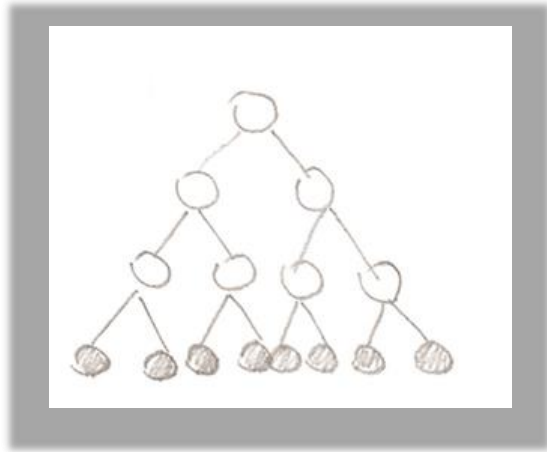
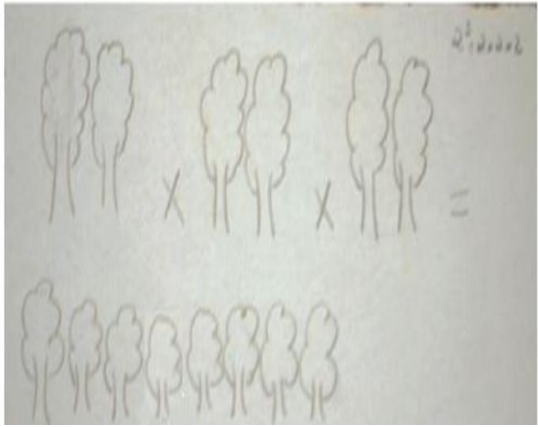
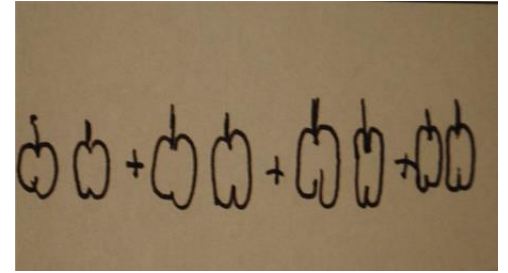
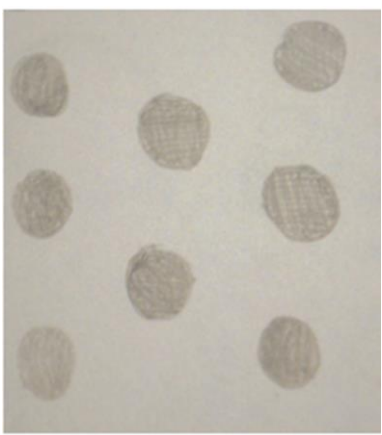
Strongly researched field, but mostly: a) picture as a medium for teaching and b) drawing as a problem-solving tool.

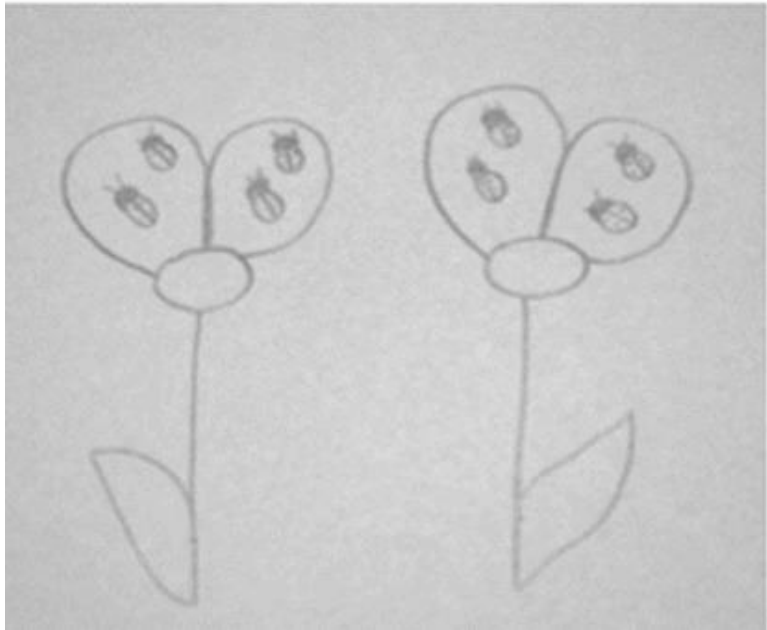
Can children's' *self-designed drawing* serve as a research tool for insight into child's *mathematical understanding*?



Draw a picture representing

$$2^3$$





‘For a math teacher, there is no real difference between a visual representation of a concept and the visualisation process of making sense of that concept. For students, however, there is a gap that some are unable to bridge. **Students simply do not see what the teacher sees.**’ (Duval, 2014, p. 160).



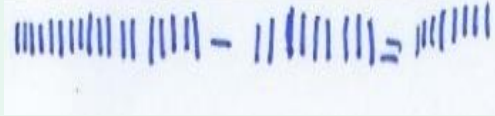

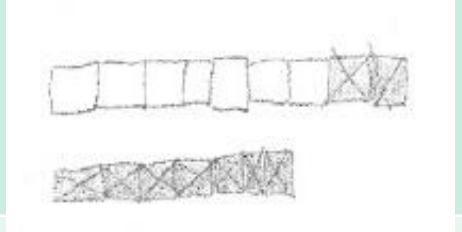
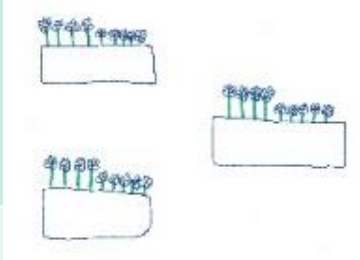
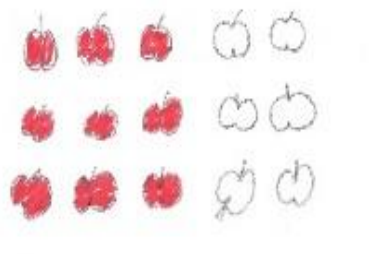

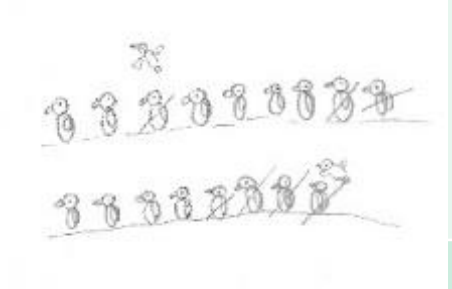

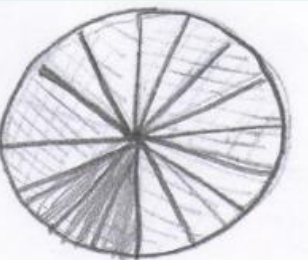


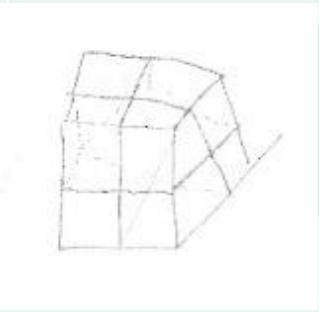


$$17 - 9 \quad 3 \cdot (4 + 5)$$

$$\frac{3}{5} \text{ of } 15$$

$$2^3$$

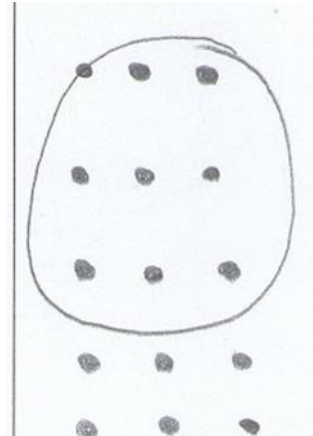
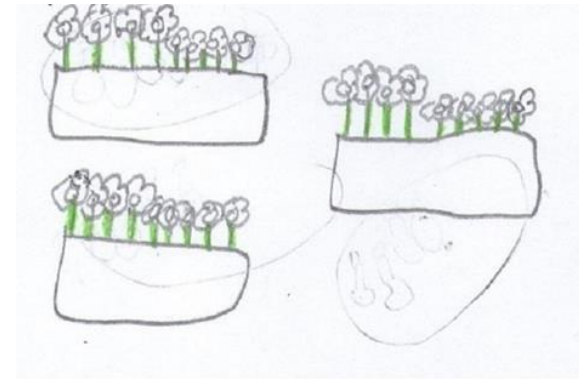
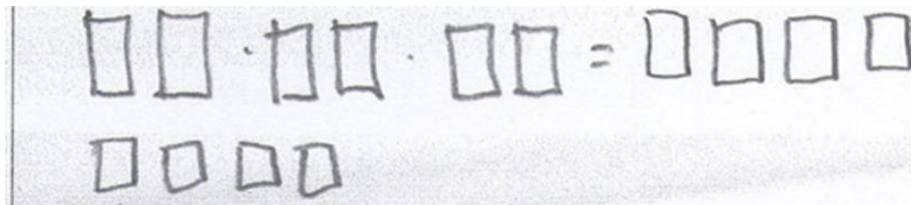
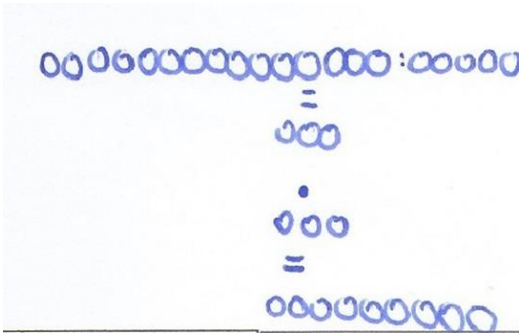
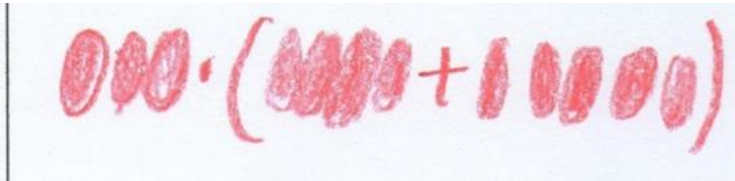
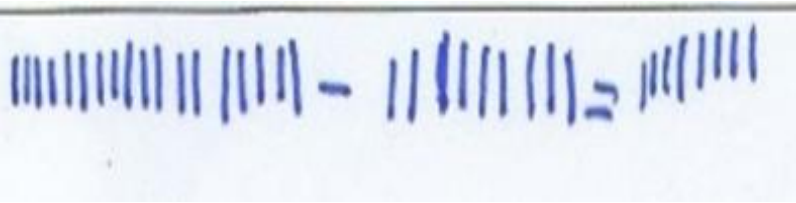
|                             |                               |                 |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Future teachers, elementary | Slovenia<br>Slovakia<br>Spain | N = 288         |
| 16-17 years, gymnasium      | Slovenia                      | N = 147         |
| <b>11-13 years</b>          | <b>Slovenia</b>               | <b>N = 1595</b> |
| 5-7 years                   | Slovenia                      | N = 192         |

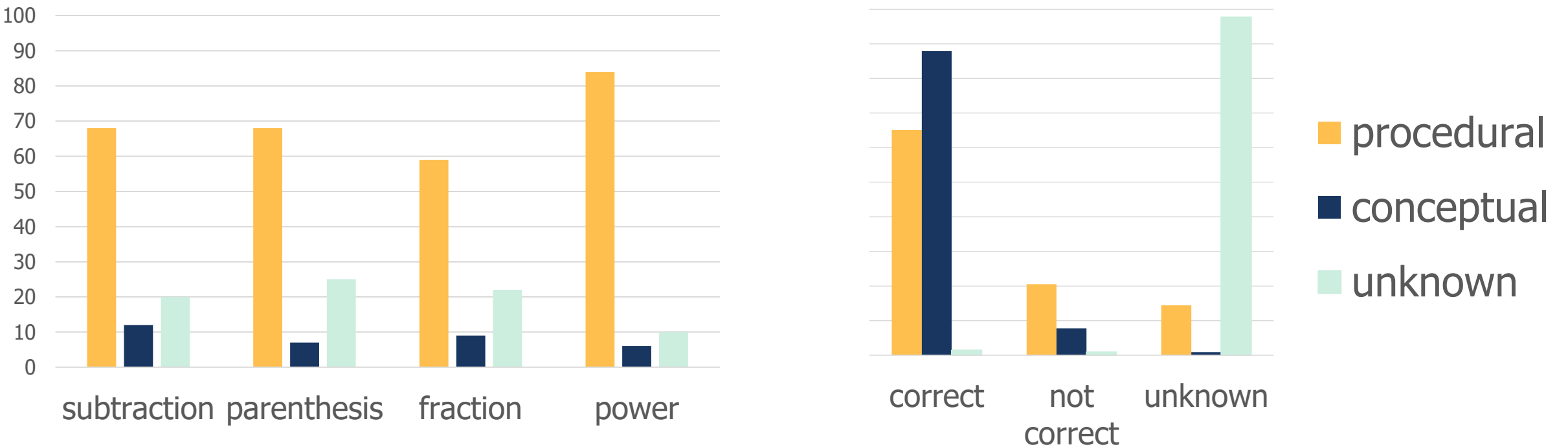
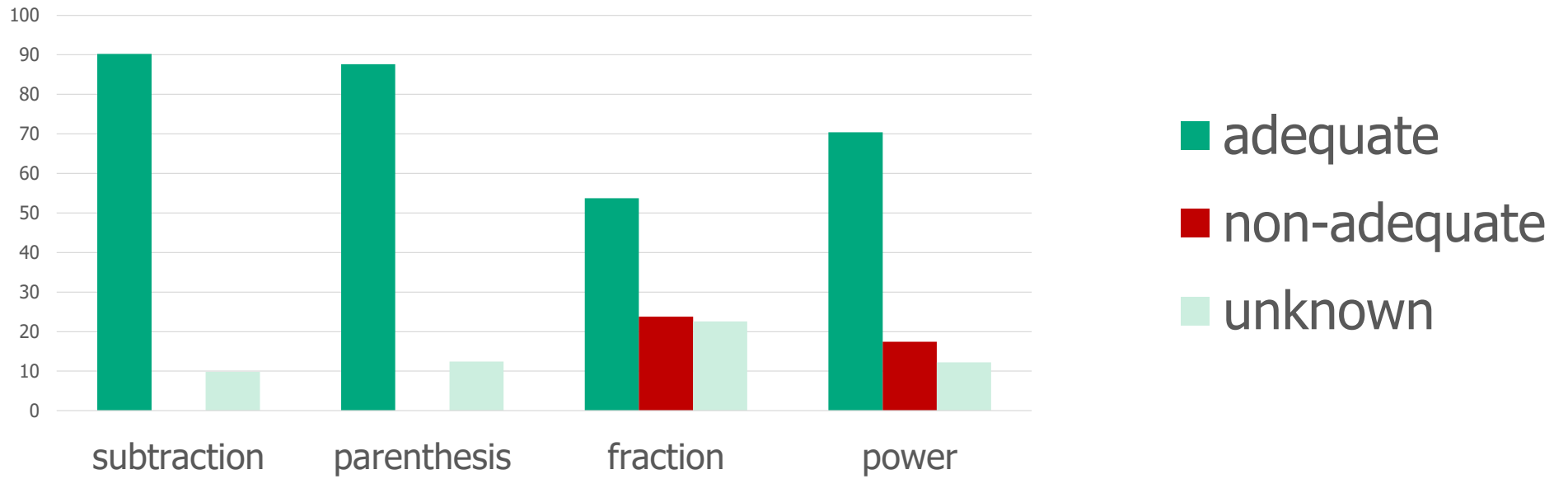
| Theme       | categories     | codes  |  |  |   |
|-------------|----------------|--|--|--|---|
| 12-13 years |                | subtraction  | paranthesis  | fractions  | power   |
| Procedural  | Result-symbol  | 8  | 27   | 9  | 8   |
|             | Result-picture | 8 objects  | 27 objects   | 9 objects  | 8 objects   |
|             | interplay      |    |   |  |   |
| conceptual  | relations      |    |   |   |    |
|             |                |   |  |  |    |
|             |                |  |  |  |  |
| Not known   | illustration   |  |  |  |   |

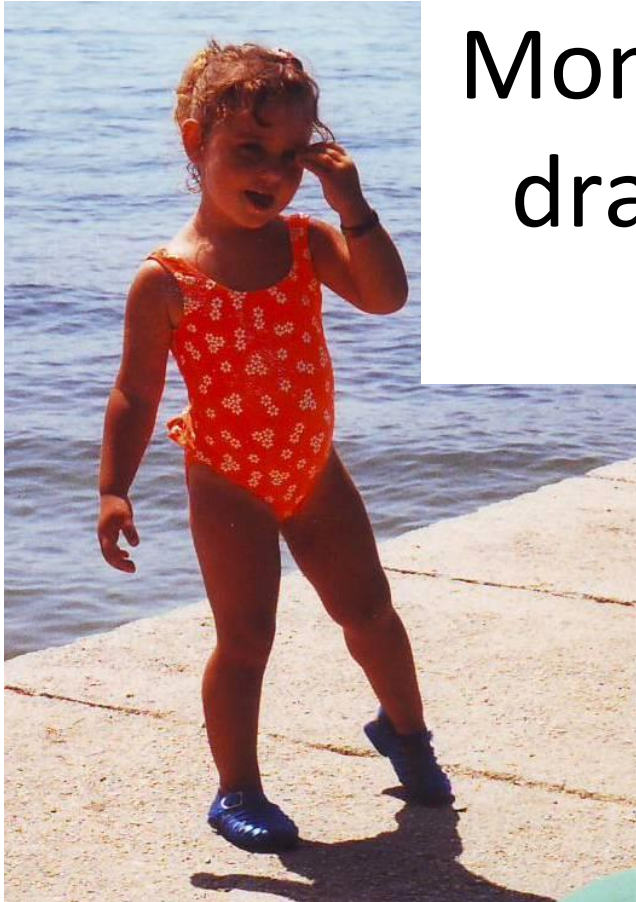


Instrumental /relational understanding (Skemp, 1976)

→ Procedural /conceptual type of knowledge (Rittle-Johnson & Siegler); **critique** (Ainley et al., t, & Hansen, 2006)







Mommy, please  
draw a puppy  
dog.



Mommy, why did you draw  
a piggy?

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