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Very Handy

What is the effect of immersion verses flash cards on ability to learn sign language? Research suggests that, if students learning sign language are exposed to either immersion or flashcards, then the two instruction methods will not be significantly different in effectiveness because research has shown that a combination of the two methods is more effective than either one alone.

The experiment was completed by showing two groups of test subjects either a short story video or a flashcard video. Immediately after viewing, each participant was tested individually and graded.

Participants in Group A who were exposed to the flashcard instruction method obtained a mean of 86% and a standard deviation of 7.6942. Participants in Group B who were exposed to the immersion instruction method obtained a mean of 46.3% and a standard deviation of 20.4026. The results of a two sample t-test in order to compare the two groups were significant at a P-value of 0.0006 ($t=4.45$). However, knowing that the difference in means between the two groups was statistically significant does not describe the size of the effect. Using a Cohen's d revealed an effect size of .8155110.

The results of this experiment did not support the hypothesis because it showed that in this experiment, flash cards were better than an immersion video. While we cannot generalize this experiment to all forms of teaching and know that it is this conclusive, teachers would still be able to use this information to more effectively teach their students.