

Title	mini-cの育成に関する研究 - 創造的になる方法を探索して-
Author(s)	近藤, 健次
Citation	
Issue Date	2018-03
Type	Thesis or Dissertation
Text version	ETD
URL	<a href="http://hdl.handle.net/10119/15314">http://hdl.handle.net/10119/15314</a>
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Description	Supervisor:永井 由佳里, 知識科学研究科, 博士

## A Study on Fostering mini-c: Searching for Ways to Become Creative

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Since creativity is important for solution of various problems including economic development and social problems, the concern over creativity is rising in various context. For example, in educational context, creative thinking is considered a key skill for future citizens, and in business context, corporations strive to dominate international markets through creative ideas and products (Kampylis & Valtanen, 2010).

While the word "creativity" is widely used, it seems that what are imaged with the word "creativity" differ among people. For example, some may imagine art or craftsmanship with the word "creativity", some may imagine innovation or scientific discovery, some may imagine everyday ideas, and others may imagine an internal thing like divergent thinking. In addition, while efforts to foster creativity are being carried out in various places, it is not often clear what the word "creativity" means in these efforts.

The purpose of this study is, focusing on mini-c (Beghetto & Kaufman, 2007), to clarify the characteristics of development of mini-c and to propose groupwork programs for fostering mini-c.

Mini-c is defined as the novel and personally meaningful interpretation of experiences, actions and events, which everyone has. Mini-c is distinguished from other forms of creativity in that the judgment of novelty and meaningfulness that constitutes mini-c is an intrapersonal judgment. Moreover, all contributions judged to be creative by others have their genesis in mini-c.

This study, first, organize the concepts of creativity and the level of creativity through previous study review. The existence of concept of creativity without generating products was revealed

Then, focusing on mini-c, the characteristics of mini-c development was investigated. For the investigation, from the viewpoint of the similarity of mini-c development and behavior modification, the transtheoretical model (TTM; Prochaska, Norcross, & DiClemente, 1994) was adopted from a variety of models which explain human behavior. The TTM consists of four constructs: the stages of change, the processes of change, decisional balance and self-efficacy for behavior change. In addition, the processes of change, decisional balance, and self-efficacy for behavior have certain relationships to the stages of change. In this study, scales for mini-c, stages of change, decisional balance, and process of change were made by reference to previous studies, and then samples of 353 Japanese adults were gathered. Results shows that mini-c scores go up as people step forward the stages of change, which implies the applicability of TTM to mini-c fostering. Moreover, three factors on the decisional balance were found: "benefit," "difficulty," and "bad effect", and three factors on the processes of change were found; "positive recognition and frustration avoidance", "commitment and preparation", and "others' encouragement and use of support." In addition, it became clear how factors of the decisional balance and those of the processes of change vary as people step forward the stages, and it was suggested that that different supports would be required for people in each stage of change.

Next, noting the fact that groupwork is frequently used as an effort to foster creativity, systematization of groupwork was attempted. Creativity-related groupwork was organized into four of "mini-c fostering groupwork", "little-c fostering groupwork", "creative interaction skills development groupwork" and "creative product generation groupwork", and desirable group composition and evaluation criteria for each groupwork were presented. In addition, the content of support for the mini-c fostering groupwork was discussed.

Finally, position of this study in creativity development research and that in knowledge science were discussed, and contributions of this study for both were presented. Moreover, limitation of this study and future study were discussed.

**Keywords: Creativity, mini-c, Transtheoretical Model(TTM), Groupwork**