

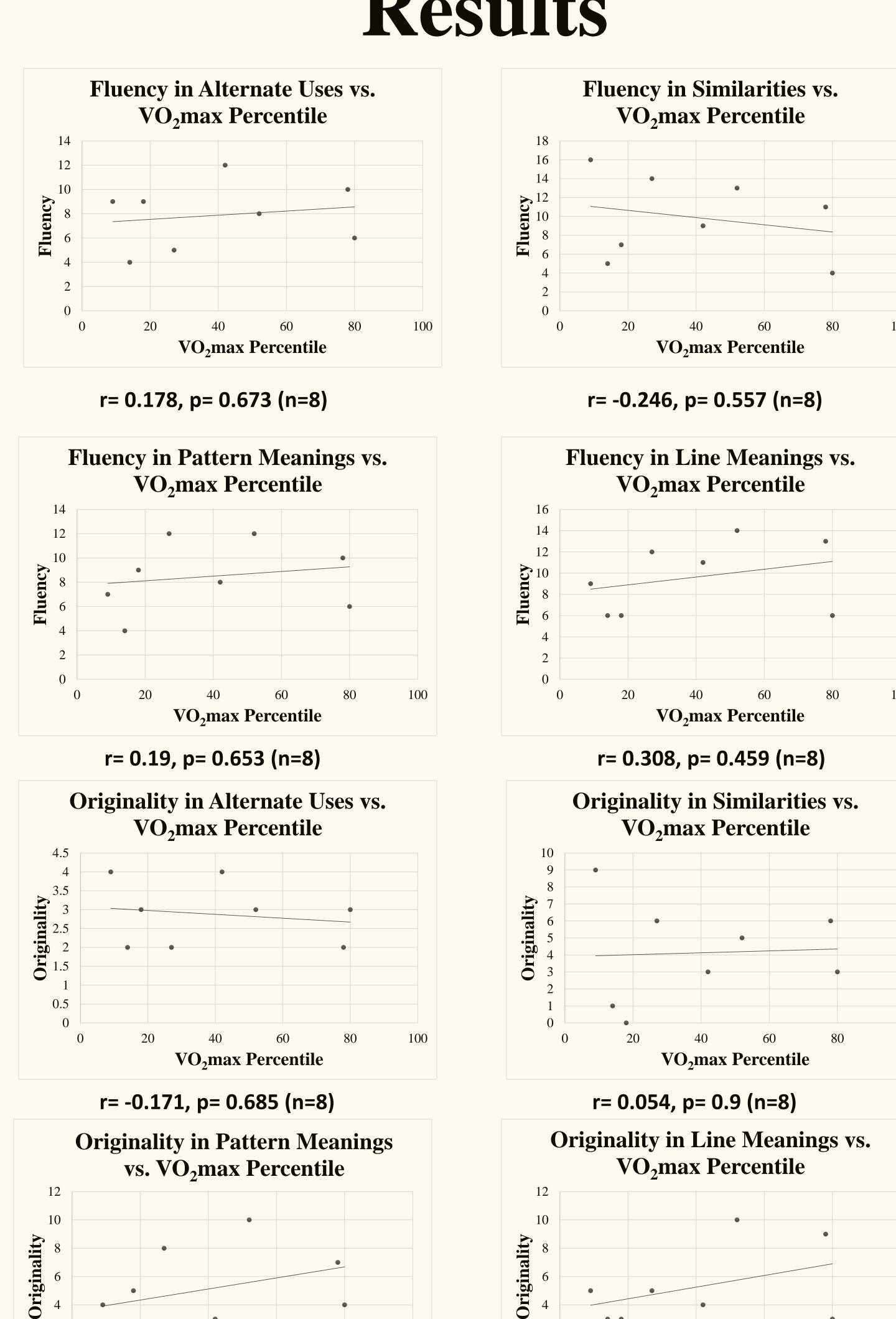
Cardiovascular Fitness and Creativity in Children

Jason Steinberg^{1,4}, Laura Chaddock-Heyman⁴, Lauren Raine², Aki Nikolaidis^{3,4}, Siddarth Ponnala⁴, Charles Hillman², Art Kramer^{1,4}

Department of Psychology¹, Department of Kinesiology and Community Health², Neuroscience Program³, Beckman Institute⁴ University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Introduction

Cardiovascular fitness is a positive correlate, and aerobic exercise is an inducer, of cognitive benefits and neural changes. Cardiovascular fitness may be significantly related to improved creativity. This has not been studied indepth, and there are no studies examining this relationship in children, who are in a particularly malleable period of neural development.



VO₂max Percentile

r= 0.348, p= 0.398 (n=8)

VO₂max Percentile

r= 0.417, p= 0.304 (n=8)

Subjects

Eight 9-11 year olds

Methods

Cardiovascular Fitness

VO₂max test- maximal oxygen consumption

Measurement 1- VO₂max Percentile



Creativity

Measurement 1: The number of responses given that are considered appropriate (fluency)

Measurement 2: The number of unique responses -responses that only one subject thought of (originality)

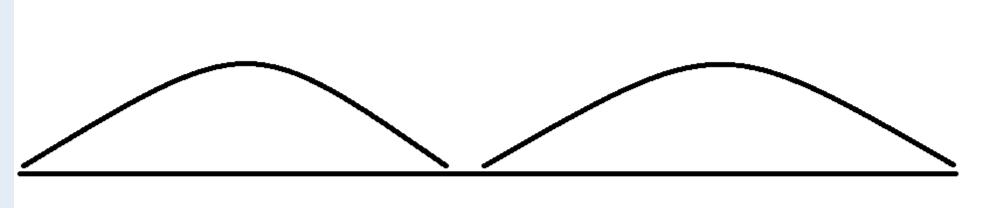
Verbal Examples

Alternate Uses: "Tell me all the different ways that you could use a shoe."

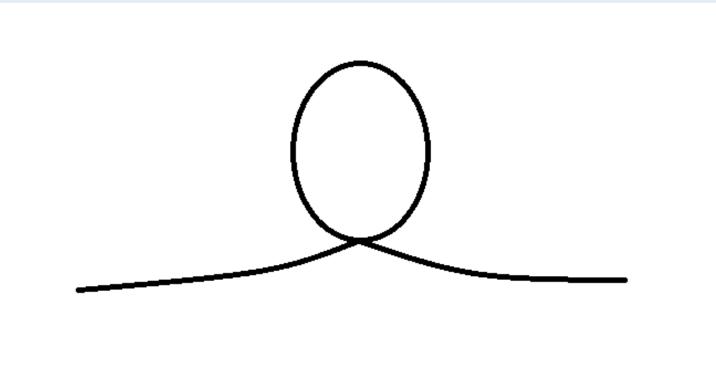
Similarities: "Tell me all the ways in which a cat and a mouse are alike."

Visual Examples

Pattern Meanings:



Line Meanings:



Discussion

- -No significant correlations
- -Limited sample size
- -Future directions- neuroimaging, other variables

Acknowledgements

With support from the James E. Spoor Scholarship.