Need a Break?

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The purposed of this experiment was to see if students performance on copying tasks improved when they were given a break (two minutes for every five minutes). For my experiment I gave 27 third grade students a sheet of paper with 35 geometric shapes on it. I gave them ten minutes to neatly copy each shape onto another piece of paper. Then next day, I repeated this procedure with a new sheet of 35 geometric shapes. However, I gave the students five minutes to work, then a two-minute break, then five more minutes to complete the shapes. the results are as follows: On the first day, the students completed an average of 29 shapes. They completed, on average, 32 shapes the second day. With these results I concluded that the break did make a difference. The students completed more shapes with the two-minute break.

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