

Playing IS Learning!

A Parent's Pathfinder to Information on the Importance of Young Children Learning Through Play

According to Smith and Pellegrini in *Learning Through Play* (2013), "Play is often defined as activity done for its own sake, characterized by means rather than ends (the process is more important than any end point or goal), flexibility (objects are put in new combinations or roles are acted out in new ways), and positive affect (children often smile, laugh, and say they enjoy it)." Additionally, learning through play is how young children make sense of the world around them. The following document is created for parents and caregivers of young children as way to access information about this topic to become informed about how their young child learns best, to understand best practices for their child's learning when they go to school, and also how to facilitate learning at home.



Books

- Bruce, T. (2011). *Learning through play: For babies, toddlers, and young children* (2nd ed.). London: Hodder Education.
- Chiavarone, K., Ortiz, S., & Pace, A. (2016). *The Undeniable power of play: 101 tips, activities and play-based learning strategies to engage your child*. [Kindle version]. Available from Amazon.com.
- Elkind, D. (2007). *The power of play : learning what comes naturally*. Cambridge, Mass. : Da Capo Lifelong.
- Hirsh-Pasek, K., Golinkoff, R.M., & Eyer, D.E. (2004). *Einstein never used flash cards : How our children really learn-- and why they need to play more and memorize less*. Emmaus, Pa. : Rodale.
- Murphy, L. (2016). *Lisa Murphy on play : The foundation of children's learning* (2nd ed.). St. Paul, MN : .ORedleaf Press.
- Singer, D., Golinkoff, R.M., & Hirsh-Pasek, K. (2006). *Play = learning: How play motivates and enhances children's cognitive and social-emotional growth*. New York, N.Y.: Oxford University Press.

Websites

The Genius of Play

www.thegeniusofplay.org

Zero to Three

<https://www.zerotothree.org/espanol/play>

Alliance for Childhood

<http://www.allianceforchildhood.org/home>

Learning 4 Kids

<http://www.learning4kids.net>

Articles

- Alana. (2016, February 7). 10 ways to facilitate play-based learning at home. [Blog post]. Retrieved from <http://parentingfromtheheartblog.com/2016/02/07/facilitate-play-based-learning-at-home/>
- Anderson-McNamee, J.K. (2010). The importance of play in early childhood development. Retrieved from <https://www.msuextension.org/health/documents/MT201003HR.pdf>
- Bongiorno, L. (n.d.). 10 things every parent should know about play. Retrieved from <https://families.naeyc.org/learning-and-development/child-development/10-things-every-parent-should-know-about-play>
- Greatschools staff. (2016). How important is play in preschool? Retrieved from <https://www.greatschools.org/gk/articles/play-in-preschool/>
- Isenberg, J.P., Quisenberry, N. (2002). Play: Essential for all children. A position paper of the association for childhood education international. *Childhood Education*, 79(1), 33-39.
- Lerner, C., Greenip, S. (2004). The power of play: Learning through play from birth to three. Retrieved from <https://www.zerotothree.org/resources/311-the-power-of-play>
- Learning, play, and your 1- to 2- year old. (2017). Retrieved from <http://kidshealth.org/en/parents/learn12yr.html?WT.ac=p-ra#>
- Toddlers: Learning by playing. (2017). Retrieved from <http://kidshealth.org/en/parents/toddler-play.html?WT.ac=p-ra>
- Tomlin, C.R. (2008). For parents only: Teaching your child through play. Retrieved from http://www.earlychildhoodnews.com/earlychildhood/article_view.aspx?ArticleId=456
- The magic of play: How it inspires & aids early development. (2017). Retrieved from <http://kidshealth.org/en/parents/play-magic.html#>
- White, R.E. (2012). The power of play: A research summary on play and learning. Retrieved from <http://www.childrensmuseums.org/images/MCMResearchSummary.pdf>



"Play gives children a chance to practice what they are learning."

-Mr. Rogers

Videos

For More Information Please Contact:

The Gering Public Library
1055 P Street
Gering, NE 69341
308-436-7433



- Pdi. (2012, April 4). The Role of Play in the Overly-Academic Classroom. [Video file]. Retrieved from <http://earlychildhoodnyc.org/newswatch/must-watch-a-new-video-about-the-importance-of-play/>
- Boston Children's Museum. (2013, February 19). Language develops through play. [Video file]. Retrieved from <https://youtu.be/fZwbK0-kVwQ>
- Bright Horizons. (2017, February 1). Learning through play. [Webinar]. Retrieved from <https://youtu.be/gIz5aJHejXg>