



Parent Seminar

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by

Dr. LAM Chun Bun Ian

Co-Director,

Centre for Child and Family Science,

The Education University of Hong Kong





The importance of play in child learning



National Literacy Trust (2018). 10 reasons why play is important. Retrieved from: <u>https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/10-reasons-why-play-important/</u>

Characteristics of child learning



Gestwicki, C. (2013). Developmentally appropriate practice: Curriculum and development in early education. New York: Cengage Learning.

What is play?

Features	Play	Non-play Passive	
Participation	Active		
Choice	Chosen by children	Chosen by adults	
Motivation	Emphasize the process	Emphasize the outcome	
Relations	Reality and fantasy	Reality	

Henniger, M. L. (2013). Teaching young children. New York: Pearson.



Types of play







- · playful wrestling
- · hugging & tickling
- · running around

- · Lego
- · play-doh
- · blocks

- · play kitchen
- ·hero play
- · drama

- · chess
 - · card games
 - · board games

Gray, P. (2013). Free to learn: Why unleashing the instinct to play will make our children happier, more self-reliant, and better students for life. New York: Basic Books.



- Children laugh loudly
- Children participate actively
- Children touch gently
- Children change roles as chasers and runners
- Involves more than two children



- Children frown, cry, or flush
- One child dominates the other
- Children touch roughly
- Roles remain unchanged: One child is always after the other
- Involves only two children

DeBenedet. A. T., & Cohen, L. J. (2010). The art of roughhousing: Good old-fashioned horseplay and why every kid needs it. Philadelphia, PA: Quirk Books. Kaiser, B., & Rasminsky, J. S. (2011). Challenging behavior in young children: Understanding, preventing, and responding effectively. Boston, MA: Pearson.

How to support constructive play?



Fay-Stammbach, T., Hawes, D.J., & Meredith, P. (2014). Parenting influences on executive function in early childhood: A review. Child Development Perspectives, 8, 258-264.



(Chinese version only)

Discuss with the child what roles will be involved



Bodrova, E., & Leong, D. J. (2007). Tools of the mind. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson.



Diamond, A., & Lee, K. (2011). Interventions shown to aid executive function development in children 4 to 12 years old. Science, 333, 956-964.



Download game cards from here : <u>http://3esproject.eduhk.hk/tc/infodetails.php?infoid=34&infoCat=3&userCat=2</u>

How does play support child development?

Types of play:	Rough and tumble play	Constructive play	Pretend play	Games with rules
Areas of development:	 Muscles Balance Social skills 	 Abstract thinking Organizational skills Creativity 	 Language development Cognitive abilities Social skills 	 Follow rules Use strategies Experience winning and losing

Smith, P. K. (2009). Children and play: Understanding children's world. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell.

How can play support child learning?



Chung, K. K. H., Lam, C. B., & Cheung, K. C. (2018). Visuomotor integration and executive functioning are uniquely linked to Chinese word reading and writing in kindergarten children. Reading and Writing, 31, 155-171.

How can play support child learning?



Bodrova, E., & Leong, D. J. (2007). Tools of the mind. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson.

What can parents do during free play?



McNeil, C. B., & Hembree-Kigin, T. L. (2010). Parent-child interaction therapy (2nd ed.). New York: Springer.

Praise the child

	How	Examples
•	Accurate	 "I really like it when you gently treated the wound of the little bear!"
•	Immediate	 "Thank you for sharing your blocks with me!"
•	Genuine	 "I was so impressed by your concentration during that puzzle game."

Reflect the meanings and emotions of the child

How	Examples
EmotionsMeanings	 "I know you are upset—you worked so hard on the tower and now it fell down." "You are tired after swimming."

Vocabularies of Emotions





Imitate the child

	How	Examples
sa	ay in the me way as e child does	 <u>What is the child constructing?</u> "I am building a tower with the blocks—just like you!"
• De	escribe the tention	 <u>What is the child playing?</u> "Let's move the train and get the passengers at the station!"
		 <u>What strategies is the child using</u>? "I am learning from you, pressing the paper before drawing."

Describe the child's behaviors

	How	Examples
•	Pay attention to what the child is doing	 What is the child constructing? "You carefully line up the blocks—are you building a spaceship?"
•	Help the child to understand what he or she	 <u>What is the child playing?</u> "You are preparing tea and snacks for the little bear!"
	is doing	 <u>What strategies is the child using</u>? "You are grouping the puzzle pieces according to their colors."

Enjoy the time with the child

Focus on the process

Don't overuse the skills Think of play as a time to know the child better Turn off the TV; put away the phone

Using all FIVE skills at the same time!



