

## Parent 5 – Parents' and Teachers' Understanding and Practices of Play and Learning

Questionnaire: Parents and teacher's understanding and practices of play and learning

Questionnaire : Parents perceptions of play and learning in the early years (3/4-year old's)

1. What you understand by term the play for 3-4-year-old children?

AS A PARENT OF TWO VERY BUSY BOYS, I CONSTANTLY NEED TO HAVE FUN ACTIVITIES AT THEIR DISPOSAL. "PLAY" IS AN ESSENTIAL PILLAR IN THEIR LIVES AND CAN BE DONE FORMALLY OR INFORMALLY. FORMAL PLAY COULD INCLUDE GETTING THEM TO COMPLETE A TASK BY FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS. INFORMAL PLAY IS ALLOWING THEM TO EXPLORE ON THEIR OWN AND LETTING THEIR CREATIVE JUICES FLOWING. BOTH TYPES OF "PLAY" ARE FUNDAMENTAL.

2. How do you engage your child in play and learning ?

I AM A STAY-AT-HOME-MOM. EVEN THOUGH I AM AVAILABLE TO SEE TO MY CHILD THE ENTIRE DAY, I STILL PREFER HAVING A ROUTINE. THIS INCLUDES STRUCTURED PLAY TIME. WE HAVE GOOD DAYS AND BAD DAYS. THERE ARE DAYS WHEN WE DONT ACHIEVE ALL THE GOALS SET OUT, BUT THAT IS STILL OKAY. INFORMAL PLAY COVERS UP FOR THAT AND SAVES THE DAY. LEARNING THROUGH PLAY INCLUDES PRETEND PLAY. 3-4 YEAR OLD KIDS LOVE EXPLORING AND GOING ON ADVENTURES. THEY ALSO LOVE TO HELP OUT WITH MINOR CHORES THAT ARE FUN, SUCH AS SORTING OUT AND PACKING TOYS.

3. Do you consider play as learning ? Explain

100%. DEFINITELY!

I CANNOT STRESS ENOUGH ON HOW IMPORTANT "PLAY" IS TO A CHILD.

WHETHER ITS BUILDING A LEGO TOWER, OR SIMPLY PLAYING "SHOP SHOP".

ANOTHER METHOD OF FUNDAMENTAL PLAY IS PLAYING WITH OTHER CHILDREN, SAME AGE OR DIFFERENT.

THIS ALLOWS THEM TO GAIN SOCIAL SKILLS AND THE INTERACTION COULD CREATE AND BUILD THEIR SELF-ESTEEM.

"PLAY" IS VERY IMPORTANT AND SETS A POSITIVE MINDSET FOR A CHILD. IT DEFINITELY IS CONSIDERED AS LEARNING AND THEY REAP MANY BENIFITS FROM IT.

4. Do you think play is more important than learning ? Why ?

BOTH ARE IMPORTANT.

CHILDREN LEARN THROUGH PLAY.

STRUCTURED PLAY LIKE PUZZLES, OR FANTASY PLAY SUCH AS PLAYING DRESS UP. THERE IS ALWAYS A LESSON LEARNT. PLAY IS CRUCIAL AND VALUABLE IN EVERY CHILD'S MENTAL GROWTH.

5. Do you think learning is more important than play ? Why ?

LEARNING IS AS IMPORTANT AS PLAY. WORKS HAND IN HAND AND LINKS UP.

I FEEL THE MAIN REASON FOR THIS IS THAT CHILDREN LEARN MORE THROUGH PLAY, RATHER THAN SITTING FOR A LONG TIME STRUGGLING TO CONCENTRATE ON A CERTAIN THING, ESPECIALLY AT THE TENDER AGE OF 3-4.



6. Do you prefer that your child plays and learns? Why?

YES, OF COURSE.

I FEEL MORE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL WILL BE ABSORBED THIS WAY.

THE TECHNIQUE OF PLAYING AND LEARNING IS FAR GREATER THAN JUST LEARNING ALONE.

ACADEMIC SKILL IS IMPORTANT, HOWEVER PLAY FORMS THE FOUNDATION OF A CHILD'S MINDSET AND ALLOWS THEM TO CRACK THEIR CURIOSITY.

7. Does your child like to play? Why?

ALL THE TIME!

AT MEAL-TIMES CAN BE A GOOD EXAMPLE. OR EVEN WHEN PRETEND PLAYING.

THE FACT THAT THEY ARE PLAYING, GIVES THEM ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES TO DEVELOP AND UNLEASH HIDDEN TALENTS.

8. When you go shopping with your child , do you allow your child to choose his/her own toy? Why?

IT DEPENDS.

WHEN MY CHILD DOES GOOD OR GETS PRAISED FOR DOING EXTRA THAN NORMAL, IT GETS NOTED ON HIS REWARD CHART.

AT CERTAIN TIMES HE IS ALLOWED TO CHOOSE HIS OWN TOY.

OTHER TIMES I CHOOSE FOR HIM. (EDUCATIONAL TOYS)  
THEY KIDS. THEY NEED BALANCE.

9. How do you ensure that your child is happy/delighted with the learning activities ?

AS SOON AS I LAY OUT AN ACTIVITY, I LOOK AT MY CHILD'S REACTION. THIS WILL DETERMINE IF HE IS GOING TO ENJOY IT OR DREAD IT. NEW ACTIVITIES CAN BE OVERWHELMING, SO I INCORPORATE HIS FAVORITE THINGS IN AS WELL.

10. Does learning take place inside or outside the house ?

THERE IS A TIME AND PLACE FOR EVERYTHING.  
ALSO, WEATHER PERMITTING.

WATER PLAY IS MAINLY DONE OUTSIDE. THE ONLY  
WATER PLAY WE DO INSIDE THE HOUSE IS DURING  
BATH TIME!

A NICE WARM DAY ALSO WOULD GET US TAKING  
SOME TOYS OUTDOORS AND SETTING UP AN OBSTACLE  
TASK. PLAYING SPORT IS ONE OF MY CHILD'S FAVORITE  
ACTIVITIES. HE LOVES BEING PHYSICAL. SOCCER OR CRICKET.

INDOOR PLAY INCLUDES LEGO OR PLAY DOUGH.  
THIS IS GENERALLY DONE ON THE FLOOR OR AT A  
TABLE.

11. Describe how you set up the play learning environment for the child?

I DONT HAVE A SPECIFIC LAY OUT. BUT I TRY TO MAKE



IT AS FUN AS POSSIBLE.

MOST OF THE TIME ITS FREE PLAY AND MY CHILD CHOOSES WHA TO DO.

HAVING THE RIGHT TOYS OR EQUIPMENT IS IMPORTANT. IT DOES NOT HAVE TO BE EXPENSIVE THINGS. RECYCLED TOYS OR EVEN HOMEMADE TOYS WORKS WONDERS TOO.

12. From the pictures explain which picture best depicts learning ? Explain

EACH PICTURE HAS BENIFITS. I CANT CHOOSE ONE ONLY.

READING TO YOUR CHILD GIVES THEM SOLACE AND COMFORT. IT ALSO WIDENS A CHILDS IMAGINATION.

PLAYING WITH YOUR CHILD MAKES THEM FEEL IMPORTANT AND GIVES THEM CONFIDENCE. IT ALSO GIVES THEM AN OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE THE LEAD AND NOT FEEL OVER-SHADOWED BY OTHER KIDS. THEY RECIEVE MORE ANTENTION.

PLAYING WITH OTHER CHILDREN ON OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT ENHANCES GROSS MOTOR SKILLS, AS WELL AS BROADENS THEIR IMAGINATION. INFORMAL AND FUN.

CHILDREN IN A PLAY GROUP WITH AN EDUCATOR IS MORE STRUCTURED. BUT BY HAVING PEERS LEARN TOGETHER, IT COULD CREATE EXCITEMENT AND MORE INTEREST IN THE LESSON.

CHILDREN READING ALONE ALLOWS THEM TO GO INTO A WORLD OF THEIR OWN. THEIR OWN ADVENTURE

SO PERSONALLY, I CANNOT CHOOSE JUST ONE. BUT IF I REALLY HAD TO, IT WOULD BE PICTURE 4.

13. Do you consider certain play activities to be risky activities? Explain

YES, LIKE OUTDOOR PLAY ACTIVITIES ~~OR~~ THAT ARE UNSUPERVISED. OR ANY UNSUPERVISED ACTIVITY FOR A 3-4 YEAR OLD.

OLDER KIDS ARE MORE RELIABLE AND KNOW BETTER.



