12 Features of Play

Bruce, Tina (2011) Learning Through Play: For Babies, Toddlers and Young Children.



- 01 Children use first hand experiences from life.
- 02 Children make up rules as they play in order to keep control.
- 03 Children symbolically represent as they play, making and adapting play props.
- 04 Children choose to play they cannot be made to play.
- 05 Children rehearse their future in their role play.
- 06 Children sometimes play alone.
- 07 Children pretend when they play.
- 08 Children play with adults and other children cooperatively in pairs or groups.
- 09 Children have a personal play agenda, which may or may not be shared.
- 10 Children are deeply involved and difficult to distract from their deep learning as they wallow in their play and learning.
- 11 Children try out their most recently acquired skills and competences, as if celebrating what they know.
- 12 Children coordinate ideas and feelings and make sense of relationships with their families, friends and cultures.