

Child-led Play Leads to Early Literacy

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“Play does not have to connect directly to a literacy-based activity, to support literacy. In fact, a child cannot play without building skills that will support them when it comes to reading and writing.” ~ *The Whole Child Alphabet*

play is how young children actually develop literacy

“Literacy begins with embracing the whole child, not introducing reading and writing instruction at an early age.” ~ *The Whole Child Alphabet*

cornerstones of language and literacy

“[Literacy] is not a matter of teaching; rather, it is a matter of developing.”
~ *The Whole Child Alphabet*

cornerstones of language and literacy

Language

receptive

expressive

phonological awareness

cornerstones of language and literacy

reading

decoding

comprehension

visual processing

eyesight

vision

cornerstones of language and literacy

writing

composition

motor

physical development

child-led play

Play is activity that is
(1) self-chosen and self-directed;
(2) intrinsically motivated;
(3) guided by mental rules;
(4) imaginative; and



(5) conducted in an active, alert, but relatively non-stressed frame of mind.

~ Dr. Peter Gray, "Definitions of Play"

"Play is of the child. If it is not of the child, it is not play."

~ *The Whole Child Alphabet*

components of play

standards-based practice

call it what it is

all child-led play supports literacy

infant/toddler play

construction play

dramatic play

creative arts play

sensory play

gross motor play

environments

for play

adult's role

trust children and let them play

sharing with stakeholders

invite the conversation

focus on child development

be knowledgeable and confident

advocate for child-led play

make the difference

change begins with us

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StacyBenge.com/5mistakes



ExchangePress.com/abc

