

Assessment

Theories of play and philosophical approaches

1. Theorists in favour of free-play: Friedrich Froebel , Susan Isaac and Rudolph Steiner.
2. Theorist in favour of structured play: Maria Montessori.
3. Child initiated play:

Child is in control of the play.
Child chooses to play.
Child explores the toys and learns through own experience.
Activities, toys and games focus on the child's interest and preferences.

Adult-led play:
Parent or practitioner involved in the play activities.
Parent or practitioner support child during play: guiding, leading and demonstrating.
Parent or practitioners are in control of the play activities.
Adult chooses the type of activity, games or toys.
Adult plan and design activities based on observations and assessments.
4. Friedrich Froebel invented the wooden blocks to help children develop mathematical concepts.
5. Friedrich Froebel was the founder of the kindergarten.
6. Vygotsky and Bruner believed that children learn through social interaction with other people.
7. The ZPD refers to what the child can do at present and the child's ability or potential to learn new skills when supported or guided by an adult.
8. Enactive Learning: children learn by doing; an adult can teach learners new things when playing together, for example, learning rules of a game.
9. Donald Winnicott was a paediatrician who invented the idea of using transitional objects to support child's emotional well-being and encourage symbolic play.
10. A transitional object is a comfort object that is used as a substitute to represent someone important in a child's life, but is absent.
11. A teddy bear can represent dad or a stuffed soft doll can represent mum.

12. Transitional toys serve to provide comfort to toddlers in stressful situations and assist in making transition from home to nursery.
13. Mildred Parten invented the 'Stage theory of play'.
14. Solitary play refers to a child playing on their own.
Parallel play is when children play alongside each other without interaction.
Associative play is when children play with each other but does not co-ordinate play or share the same goals.
Cooperative play is when children play together in an organised situation and have an assigned role; they also share same goal.
15. Tina Bruce believed that children use play to practise what they already know. Play gives children an opportunity to understand their feelings, thoughts and people.
16. Tina Bruce believed that productive play has 12 features.
17. Janet Moyles believes that play begins when a child has access to play materials first, then the support of an adult (demonstrating how to use the play materials), and then finally allowing the child to play on their own with the play materials.
18. Bob Hughes invented the 'Taxonomy theory of play'.
19. According to Bob Hughes there are 16 play types that children display when playing.
20. Margaret McMillan pioneered the healthy school meals and medical service for children.
21. McMillan saw a relationship between unhealthy diet and poor learning. If children didn't have a healthy balanced diet, then their learning would be affected.
22. McMillan also put emphasis on social and emotional development as well as exercise.
23. Rudolph Steiner believed that learning should be child-centred and the child's personality and interest should be considered when planning activities and programmes.
24. Maria Montessori believed that children were 'active learners' who enjoy hands-on activities. She focused on structured play and guidance from adults to help children reach their potential. Emphasis was on learning that gives children independence and dignity.

25. Susan Isaac believed that a child's emotional life was revealed through the symbols and themes they explored in imaginary play.

26. Lady Allen of Hurtwood opened the first English Junk playground in Camberwell London and opened the first adventure playground for disabled children.

27. Reggio Emilia approach considered children with disabilities to have 'special rights' rather than 'special needs'?

28. Reggio Emilia approach places importance on the involvement of parents and community support to pre-school education.