Play in the Early Years

Second Edition

In this second edition of Play in the Early Years, Marilyn Fleer provides a comprehensive introduction to pedagogy and play in early years education settings. Drawing on classical and contemporary theories, this text examines social, cultural and institutional approaches to play, and explores a range of strategies for successfully integrating play into early years and primary classrooms.

Thoroughly revised to include the latest methods and research into early years development and learning, this latest edition features new material on intentional teaching, play as learning, digital play, and discipline-specific content including STEM, arts and sustainability. Two new chapters discuss post-structuralist and cultural-historical conceptions of play, and extended practical examples link pedagogical practice to the Early Years Learning Framework and the Australian Curriculum.

The text is pedagogically rich, with classroom vignettes and photographs designed to help students connect theory to practice, while reflection questions and research activities encourage in-depth reflection and extend learning. Each chapter is supported by additional content on the comprehensive companion website, which provides links to videos, readings and supplementary activities.

Freshly presented in a new full-colour layout and written in an accessible and engaging style, Play in the Early Years remains an essential resource for pre-service students and practitioners alike.

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Marilyn Fleer
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