

## The Cambridge Handbook of Play

Play takes up much of the time budget of young children, and many animals, but its importance in development remains contested. This comprehensive collection brings together multidisciplinary and developmental perspectives on the forms and functions of play in animals, in children in different societies, and through the lifespan.

*The Cambridge Handbook of Play* covers the evolution of play in animals, especially mammals; the development of play from infancy through childhood and into adulthood; historical and anthropological perspectives on play; theories and methodologies; the role of play in children's learning; play in special groups such as children with impairments or those suffering political violence; and the practical applications of playwork and play therapy. Written by an international team of scholars from diverse disciplines such as psychology, education, neuroscience, sociology, evolutionary biology, and anthropology, this essential reference presents the current state of the field in play research.

PETER K. SMITH is Emeritus Professor of Psychology at the Unit for School and Family Studies, Department of Psychology at Goldsmiths, University of London. He has published thirty books, and more than 200 refereed journal articles. He is author of *Understanding School Bullying* (2014), co-author of *Understanding Children's Development* (sixth edition, 2015) and co-editor of the *Handbook of Childhood Social Development* (second edition, 2010).

JAIPAUL L. ROOPNARINE is the Pearl S. Falk Professor of Human Development at Syracuse University, New York, and Professor of Developmental Psychology at Anton de Kom University of Suriname. He has co-edited several notable volumes on culture and development and is the editor of the *Caribbean Journal of Psychology*.

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Developmental and Disciplinary  
Perspectives

Edited by  
**Peter K. Smith**  
Goldsmiths College, University of London

**Jaipaul L. Roopnarine**  
Syracuse University



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## Contributors

E. J. MARIJKE ACHTERBERG, Department of Animals in Science and Society,  
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Utrecht University, the Netherlands

COLLEEN BAISH CAMERON, Department of Human Development and Family  
Science, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY, USA

DORIS BERGEN, Educational Psychology, University of Miami, Oxford,  
OH, USA

CAROL BERMAN, Department of Anthropology, The State University of  
New York, NY, USA

ANNA BERESIN, University of the Arts, Philadelphia, PA, USA

ELENA BODROVA, Tools of the Mind, Lakewood, CO, USA

ANNA BORTOLI, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia

ADAM HOWELL BOYETTE, Writing Program, Duke University, Durham,  
NC, USA

MILDA BREDIKYTE, Vilnius, Lithuania

FRASER BROWN, Childhood Development and Playwork Team, Leeds Beckett  
University, Leeds, UK

P. MARGARET BROWN, Melbourne Graduate School of Education, University  
of Melbourne, Parkville, Australia

GORDON M. BURGHARDT, Department of Psychology, University of Tennessee,  
Knoxville, TN, USA

ANA M. A. CARVALHO, Institute of Psychology, University of Sao Paulo, Sao  
Paulo, Brazil

ESTHER COHEN, Baruch Ivcher School of Psychology Interdisciplinary Center  
(IDC), Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Herzliya, Israel

CYNTHIA J. CRESS, Department of Special Education and Communication  
Disorders, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE, USA

xii	Contributors
	ELISE CUSCHIERI, Arts and Play Therapies, Department of Psychology, University of Roehampton, Surrey, UK
	KIMBERLY L. DAVIDSON, Human Development and Family Studies, Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, MI, USA
	CRYSTAL DAY-HESS, Marsico Institute for Early Learning, University of Denver, Denver, CO, USA
	ELIF DEDE YILDIRIM, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, Auburn University, Auburn, AL, USA
	POOL IP DONG, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, College of Education, Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA, USA
	SUSAN ENGEL, Williams College, Williamstown, MA, USA
	BETH FERHOLT, Early Childhood Education, Brooklyn College, Brooklyn, NY, USA
	MARILYN FLEER, Foundation Chair of Early Childhood Education and Development, Monash University, Frankston Victoria, Australia
	CARRIE GERMEROTH, Marzano Research, Centennial, CO, USA
	ARTIN GÖNCÜ, Educational Psychology, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL, USA
	YUMI GOSSO, Institute of Psychology, University of Sao Paulo, Sao Paulo, Brazil
	PETER GRAY, Department of Psychology, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA, USA
	PENTTI HAKKARAINEN, Vilnius, Lithuania
	SOPHIA HAN, College of Education, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL, USA
	MARITTA HÄNNIKÄINEN, Department of Education, University of Jyväskylä, Jyväskylä, Finland
	JENNIFER L. HART, School of Education, University of the Sunshine Coast, Queensland, Australia
	THOMAS S. HENRICKS, Department of Sociology, Elon University, Elon, NC, USA
	JAMES E. JOHNSON, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, College of Education, Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA, USA
	EUNJOO JUNG, Department of Human Development and Family Science, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY, USA

LILA KOSSYVAKI, Department of Disability Inclusion and Special Needs,  
 School of Education, University of Birmingham, Birmingham, UK

ANNE KULTTI, Department of Education, Communication and Learning,  
 University of Gothenburg, Göteborg, Sweden

ROBERT LECUSAY, School of Education and Communication, Jönköping  
 University, Jönköping, Sweden

DEBORAH J. LEONG, Tools of the Mind, Golden, CO, USA

ALEXANDRA LONG, Childhood Development and Playwork Team, Leeds  
 Beckett University, Leeds, UK

LAUREN MCNAMARA, Department of Child and Youth Studies, Brock  
 University, St. Catharines, Canada

GAIL F. MELSON, Department of Human Development and Family Studies,  
 Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, USA

HILKKA MUNTER, Kajaani, Finland

AGELIKI NICOLOPOULOU, Psychology Department, Lehigh University,  
 Bethlehem, PA, USA

MONICA NILSSON, Stockholm, Sweden

DESPINA PAPOUDI, Department of Disability Inclusion and Special Needs,  
 School of Education, University of Birmingham, Birmingham, UK

MICHAEL M. PATTE, Department of Elementary Education, Bloomsburg  
 University, Bloomsburg, PA, USA

ANTHONY D. PELLEGRINI, Bloomington, MN, USA

SERGIO M. PELLIS, Department of Neuroscience, University of Lethbridge,  
 Canada

LACEY E. PETERS, School of Education, Hunter College, CUNY, New York,  
 NY, USA

LINDA POLLOCK, Department of History, Tulane University, New Orleans,  
 LA, USA

NIKLAS PRAMLING, Department of Education, Communication and Learning,  
 University of Gothenburg, Göteborg, Sweden

BRISEIDA D. RESENDE, Institute of Psychology, University of Sao Paulo,  
 Sao Paulo, Brazil

JAIPAUL L. ROOPNARINE, Department of Human Development and Family  
 Science, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY, USA, and Department of

Psychology and IGSR, Anton de Kom University of Suriname, Paramaribo, Suriname

KATHLEEN ROSKOS, Department of Education and School Psychology, John Carrol University, University Heights, OH, USA

INGRID PRAMLING SAMUELSSON, Department of Education, Communication and Learning, University of Gothenburg, Göteborg, Sweden

FIONA SCOTT, School of Education, University of Sheffield, Sheffield, UK

LYNDA L. SHARPE, Research School of Biology, Australian National University, Canberra, Australia

PETER K. SMITH, Department of Psychology, Goldsmiths, University of London, UK

JOHN A. SUTTERBY, College of Education and Human Development, University of Texas-San Antonio, San Antonio TX, USA

BETH BLUE SWADENER, School of Social Transformation, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ, USA

MICHELLE T. TANNOCK, Child, Family and Community Studies, Douglas College, Vancouver, Canada

VIVIANA TREZZA, Department of Science, Roma Tre University, Rome, Italy

JENNIFER A. VADEBONCOEUR, Educational Psychology, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL, USA

LOUK J. M. J. VANDERSCHUREN, Department of Animals in Science and Society, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Utrecht University, the Netherlands

DITTE WINTHER-LINDQVIST, Aarhus University, Tuborgvej, Denmark

MIKE WRAGG, Childhood Development and Playwork Team, Leeds Beckett University, Leeds, UK

AKIE YANAGI, Department of Anthropology, The State University of New York, NY USA