EVENT

Learning through Play and Imagination: Expanding Perspectives

April 1–2, 2022 | St. Louis, Missouri, USA

EVENT DETAILS

CONFERENCE REPORT

When?

FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 2022 8:00AM TO SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 2022 7:00PM

Where?

St. Louis, Missouri, USA

Organizers

Thalia R. Goldstein, *George Mason University*; Deena Weisberg, *Villanova University*; Jacob Schatz, *New York University*

EVENT HOME

REGISTRATION AND HOUSING

PROGRAM

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOL

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

INVITED SPEAKERS

TRAVEL AND CHILDCARE AWARDS

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

CONFERENCE REPORT

#LearnPlay22

Both theory and research suggest that children learn through playing, hearing stories, and engaging in imaginative activities of all kinds. But how, exactly, does this process work? Which characteristics of play and imagination best facilitate children's learning, and why? How do children play, imagine, and learn across developmental time and in different cultural contexts? Which types of activities and interactions are best suited for learning various skills and content?

This special topic meeting addresses these questions and more by fostering interdisciplinary conversations and incorporating diverse viewpoints. The meeting's primary aim is to encourage dialogue about play and imagination across disciplinary boundaries, specifically drawing on expertise beyond traditional research programs in developmental psychology. Join us to expand perspectives on learning through play and imagination, identify gaps in the literature, and propose evidence-based strategies for how play and imagination can best be used in early education.

Plenary sessions will present new ideas and connect child development to experts in playground design and construction, media creation and production, anthropological studies of children around the world, and play in non-human animals.

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