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Stories in a Bag

***Play is big deal: Rediscovering  
play in educational contexts***

### **Play is Big Deal**

Rediscovering play in educational contexts

#### Quotes:

- **Vigotsky** (1896 - 1934):

"Wants and needs keep changing along. When needs cannot be met, the child resorts to his/her **imagination** and **fantasy** to fulfill them."

"PLAY operates as a **zone of proximal development** through make-believe".

"This make-believe enables children internalize social rules as their own".

- **D.W. Winnicott** (1896- 1971):

“It is in playing and only in playing that the individual child or adult is able to be creative and to use the whole personality, and it is only in being creative that the individual discovers the self.”

“There is for many a poverty of play... Play, like dreams, serves the function of self realization.”

- **Brian Sutton-Smith** (1986, in his book: TOYS AND CULTURE)

“... that play is usually associated with irrational, impulsive and random behaviors”.

Ingredients of PLAY:

- It entails a free choice.
- It requires a setting: fixed time and place, agreed beforehand.
- It is uncertain.
- It is **unproductive!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**
- It is ruled.
- It is fictional

(From the project: “Playing is Big Deal”- Fabiana Parano, 2016)

The redundancy of “didactive games”

Gaming helps us to:

- Deal with frustration
- Respect turns
- Wait
- Respect rules
- Respect the limits of the playing area
- Respect the time of the game
- Truly connect with other players
- Cooperate
- Understand there is another
- Let go of ego
- Recycle energy
- Create an atmosphere in which students want to stay

Therefore,

- To work on interpersonal skills and avoid discipline issues.
- To create an atmosphere that is highly conducive to learning.



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In a nutshell,

**GAMING DEVELOPS CITIZENSHIP**  
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Nursey rhyme to play with:

Origin: England; since 1708

“Girls and boys  
Come out to play;  
The moon doth shine  
As bright as day.  
Leave your supper  
And leave your sleep;  
And come with your  
Playfellows into the street.”