

## Student Reading List No.4

### Play and Older Children

1. **AARONOVITCH, S. (2008)**  
In search of inclusivity.  
*London Play News, no.41 (Autumn) pp6-7.*  
(Discusses issues around play provision and inclusion of disabled children).
2. **BLIJKERS, J. (2009)**  
Comparing children's play in nature.  
*Playrights, no.1 (Apr) pp16-19.*  
(Considers whether or not children in the global south experience 'better' play opportunities than in the global north, and highlights some of the risks of play in the natural environment in the global south, such as diseases, toxic environments and the effects of political unrest).
3. **BROOKER, M. (2007)**  
Young and involved.  
*Spaces & Places, no.30 (Dec) pp11-13.*  
(Discusses the design of public open spaces, including parks, for young people, and looks at the role of young advisors in getting young people and communities involved).
4. **FICH-JESPERSEN, J. (2008)**  
Nowhere to go: Thirteen to sixteen year olds and play.  
*Playrights Magazine, no.2 (Sep). pp21-24.*  
(Reports on a survey conducted for the KOMPAN Play Institute of 1,040 young people aged 13 to 16 years and their views on outdoor physical activity, play and play spaces).
5. **FOLLETT, M. (2007)**  
The emergence of the play ranger.  
*Playtoday, no.57 (Apr) pp8-9.*  
(Examines the development of play rangers, and describes the development of community play ranger projects).
6. **GILL, T. (2008)**  
Childhood: from freedom to fear?  
*Children in Scotland, no.82 (Apr). pp8-9.*  
(In the past 30 years attitudes to risk have changed considerably, but there are fears that children are now being overprotected. Tim Gill puts in context the debate about safety and resilience and explains why children should be encouraged to seek out adventure, creativity and stimulation).

7. **GILL, T. (2008)**  
Space-oriented children's policy: creating child-friendly communities to improve children's well-being.  
*Children & Society, vol.22, no.2 (Mar). pp136-142.*  
(Reviews different perspectives of the changing nature of childhood and compares them to state responses that seek to improve children's wellbeing. Suggests that unlike previous generations of children, children today are allowed much less independence and freedom of action, and are subject to growing adult control and supervision).
8. **HAGEMANN, C. (2009)**  
Child's play?  
*Recreation, (Apr). pp26-27.*  
(Discusses issues around play, safety and risk and challenge, drawing on *Managing Risk in Play Provision: An implementation guide* published by Play England, the DCSF and the DCMS).
9. **HEADLINERS (2008)**  
PLAYDAY: Give us a go! special edition.  
*Playtoday, no.64 (Nov), (Insert)*  
(Written and designed by a team of young people from Headliners, this special insert is dedicated to Playday 2008. Includes reports of events, interviews and an overview of the research carried out for Playday).
10. **LEARNER, S. (2008)**  
The play rangers.  
*Children & Young People Now, (26 Mar) pp22-23.*  
(Reports on the work of play rangers, trained playworkers who facilitate play in public places. Play rangers will form an important part of the national play strategy).
11. **McGUINNESS, L., STEVENS, I., and MILLIGAN, I. (2007)**  
Playing it safe? Staff and young people's views about play opportunities in residential care.  
*Scottish Journal of Residential Child Care, vol.6, no.2 (Aug/Sep). pp1-13.*  
(In 2007, the Scottish Institute for Residential Child Care [SIRCC] was asked by the Children's Commissioner for Scotland to undertake research into opportunities for outdoor play in residential care. This article reports on some of the findings of the research, focusing particularly on the views of children and young people, and the views of basic grade staff).
12. **PLAY FOR WALES (2008)**  
Places for playing.  
*Play for Wales, no.27 (Winter), pp6-7.*  
(Looks at why designated play spaces are not always the preferred option for children, who may choose to create their own play space in forests, and in other non-designated areas).
13. **PLAYTODAY (2007)**  
Playday: Our streets too!  
*Playtoday, no.58 (Sep), pp8-19.*  
(A special Playday section edited by Kamil Boriel, aged 12 years, and Adam Bhula, aged 20 years. Looks at the research on street play, reports from Playday events across the country, and the history of Playday).
14. **RUSSELL, W. and LESTER, S. (2008)**  
'Tell your mum I saved your life': the relationship between children's play, uncertainty and risk.  
*Playrights Magazine, no.2 (Sep). pp4-8.*  
(Examines contemporary understandings of play, risk and childhood and suggest that children are competent in creating uncertainty and risk in their play, and in dealing with it).
15. **SHARMAN, L. (2007)**  
Getting its skates on.  
*Local Government News, vol.29, no. 7 (Aug) pp50.*  
(Reports on a skate park project in which local young people were involved in both the design and the securing of funding).

16. **SINGER, D., and others (2009)**  
 Children's pastimes and play in sixteen nations: is free play declining.  
*American Journal of Play, vol. 1, no. 3, pp283-312.*  
 (Reports on a study of the role of play and experiential learning activities beyond formal schooling in 16 countries. The study gathered information from the mothers of 2,400 children in countries in North America, South America, Africa, Europe and Asia who described and rated their children's daily activities. Findings indicate similarities of children's play in all nations, and a general agreement that a lack of free play and experiential learning opportunities was eroding childhood).
17. **SMITH, S. (2007)**  
 Go with the flow.  
*Ip-dip, no. 1 (Sep-Dec) pp. 18-19.*  
 (Discusses the similarities between play and Parkour, free running).
18. **SPIEGAL, B. (2008)**  
 Play in school: releasing the strangle-hold.  
*Playwords, no. 36 (Autumn). pp23-25.*  
 (Considers some of the underlying reasons why free play at breaktime is not the norm at most schools, focusing on risk, challenge and play).
19. **SPIEGAL, B. (2008)**  
 Play in school: the challenge.  
*Playwords, no. 35 (Summer). pp17-19.*  
 (First of a two-part article focusing on play in schools by the principal of PLAYLINK).
20. **SUTTON, L. (2008)**  
 The state of play: disadvantage, play and children's well-being.  
*Social Policy and Society, vol. 7, no. 4 (Oct). pp537-549.*  
 (Drawing on the findings of a participatory research project with 42 children from different socio-economic backgrounds, this study aims to show how and why children's play differs depending on their social background. It highlights the importance of street play to children from disadvantaged backgrounds, arguing that these children engage in street play as a consequence of having fewer play alternatives).
21. **SUTTON-SMITH, B. (2008)**  
 Play theory: a personal journey and new thoughts.  
*American Journal of Play, vol. 1, no. 1, pp80-123.*  
 (The author reviews a lifetime devoted to the study of play in a recounting of his career and some of its autobiographical roots. Covers the development of his three major theories of play and points to some new areas of inquiry on the subject).
22. **TAYLOR, P., and others (2008)**  
 Testing the feasibility of performance indicators for play facilities in England.  
*Managing Leisure, vol. 13, no. 3-4, pp207-226.*  
 (Play England commissioned research into the feasibility of four performance indicators being used as national indicators for play provision in local authority areas. This paper reports on the findings from the six local authorities who piloted the indicators).
23. **THOMSON, S. (2007)**  
 Play in schools?  
*Playwords, no. 30 (Winter) pp10-12.*  
 (Discusses some of the issues and challenges around children's play in school. Looks at how children's play and games have changed, and at how children will resist the rules, regulations and supervision of playtime).
24. **THORP, S. (2008)**  
 Too risky by far.  
*Children & Young People Now, (23 Oct) pp24-25.*  
 (Discusses how play professionals can balance children taking risks and ensuring safety in play facilities. Highlights the need to manage parents' expectations when providing adventurous and challenging play facilities).

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25. **VEITCH, J., SALMON, J., and BALL, K. (2007)**  
Children's perception of the use of public open spaces for active free-play.  
*Children's Geographies, vol.5, no.4 (Nov) pp409-422.*  
(This paper reports on a study that examined the role and use of public spaces among children aged 6-12 years. Focus group interviews revealed that their use of public open spaces were influenced by play equipment and facilities at local parks, lack of independent mobility, urban design features, presence of friends and personal motivation).
26. **VOCE, A. (2008)**  
A national plan for play.  
*Playtoday, no.61 (Feb) pp8-9.*  
(The director of Play England discusses the government's new ten-year Children's Plan and its implications for the play sector. Includes a timeline showing the ten-year path to a national play strategy).
27. **WEN, L.M. (2009)**  
Time spent playing outdoors after school and its relationship with independent mobility: a cross-sectional survey of children aged 10-12 years in Sydney, Australia.  
*International Journal of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity, vol.6, no.15, pp1-8.*  
(Reports on a study which assessed how much time children spent playing outdoors after school, and the relationship between outdoor play and independent mobility in children aged 10 to 12 years).
28. **WHEWAY, R. (2008)**  
No hanging out here.  
*Spaces & Places, no.34 (Aug) pp10-13.*  
(Considers why groups of young people meeting and congregating in public spaces are increasingly seen as a threat).
29. **WILSON, P. (2009)**  
All to play for.  
*Spaces & Places, no.38 (Apr) pp25-27.*  
(Looks at how playworker can help transform play facilities in public parks and green spaces. A play audit carried out by playworkers in Mile End Park in London resulted in a more natural and adventurous play space).
30. **WOOLLEY, H. (2009)**  
From playgrounds to playful landscapes.  
*Spaces & Places, no.38 (Apr) pp16-19.*  
(Recently a range of initiatives encouraging children to experience nature have been having an impact on play provision. This article explores the changes and looks at whether play providers are prepared for the challenges ahead).

## Useful organisations

### Children's Play Information Service

[www.ncb.org.uk/cpis](http://www.ncb.org.uk/cpis)

### Play England

[www.playengland.org.uk](http://www.playengland.org.uk)

### Kids

[www.kids.org.uk](http://www.kids.org.uk)

### Skillsactive

[www.skillsactive.com/playwork](http://www.skillsactive.com/playwork)

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