

Student Reading List No.5

Outdoor Play

- AARONOVITCH, S. (2008)**
In search of inclusive playgrounds.
Ip-dip, no.5 (Sep-Dec). pp28-29
(The author reports on her visits to some inclusive playgrounds, including adventure playgrounds).
- ALLEN, A. (2007)**
Where would we be without scuffed knees?
Play for Wales, no.22 (Autumn). pp6.
(Reports on DIY Streets, a project by Sustrans that aims to encourage more outdoor play by helping residents in ten UK streets redesign their streets to make them safer and more attractive).
- ARMITAGE, M. (2007)**
Playgrounds - getting it right.
Play for Wales, no.20 (Spring), pp7-8.
(Considers the usage rates of playgrounds in the United Kingdom, and gives some basic guidelines for building playgrounds that children and young people will enjoy and use).
- 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).
- CONWAY, M. (2008)**
Back to the future for adventure playgrounds?
Playtoday, no.64 (Nov), pp10-11.
(The Play England National Practice Manager looks at the background to a growing policy interest in adventure play, and outlines his hopes for the future).
- CONWAY, M. (2009)**
What's in a name: adventure playground or adventure play park?
Playtoday, no.66 (Summer), pp12-13.
(Describes the differences between two different types of play provision: adventure playgrounds and adventure play parks).
- DAVY, A. (2009)**
Changing landscapes, changing lives.
Early Education, no.57 (Spring). pp8-9.
(Discusses outdoor learning and practice in the Early Years. Makes the connections between outdoor play, children's 'internal landscapes' and their developing self-concept and wellbeing. Argues that developing an outdoor area and outdoor practice is more important than ever in this age of technology).

8. **DIAMOND, P. (2009)**
A natural environment for play.
Children & Young People Now, (16 Apr) pp18-19.
(Reports on a primary school in Glasgow that has created a natural playground based on pupils' ideas).
9. **ELLAWAY, A., and others (2007)**
Nowhere to play? The relationship between the location of outdoor play areas and deprivation in Glasgow.
Health and Place, no.13, pp557-561.
(This paper examines the provision of outdoor play areas for children in relation to area deprivation in Glasgow. Findings showed a significantly higher mean number of play areas per 1000 child population in more deprived areas. The paper concludes that although deprived areas have a higher number of play areas, the quality of play areas in different locations may need further investigation).
10. **FREE PLAY NETWORK (2007)**
Six great places to play.
Spaces & Places, no.025 pp16-17.
(Six examples of good places to play, from the Free Play Network Places of Possibility exhibition).
11. **GILL, T. (2009)**
Play, public space and the assimilation of children: Jane Jacobs revisited.
Playwords, no.39 (Summer) pp8-9.
(Drawing on the work of Jane Jacobs in her book, *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*, Gill argues for more play and more children in the public realm).
12. **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).
13. **KENNEDY, L. (2008)**
Wild spaces for play.
Ip-dip, no.2 (Jan-Mar). pp24-25.
(Describes the work of the Woodland Play Centre in Somerset, and looks at how woodland play can help children to understand and engage with the physical environment (mastery play)).
14. **KERN, P., and WAKEFORD, L. (2007)**
Supporting outdoor play for young children: the zone model of playground supervision.
Young Children, vol.62, no.5 (Sep). pp12-18.
(Describes an organised approach to supervision that ensures children's outdoor play is both safe and engaging).
15. **KRAMME, A.L. (2009)**
Future playgrounds.
Playwords, no.39 (Summer) pp12-14.
(The city of Odense, Denmark is working towards the vision 'To play is to live', and aims to be the city of play in 2017. This article, the second of two, focuses on the development of future playgrounds).
16. **LEE, R. (2007)**
Back in the day.
Ip-dip, no.1 (Sep-Dec) pp14.
(A personal recollection of playing on the streets of London in the 1940s).
17. **LINDON, J. (2007)**
Free range.
Nursery World, vol.107, no. 4067 (19 Apr) pp22-23.
(Lindon looks at emotional and physical wellbeing, advising that as demonstrated in outdoor play, children flourish when they have the chance to take control of their own decisions and activities).
18. **LITTLE, A. (2007)**
Playday calls for child friendly streets.
Play & Activity Today, (Feb) pp.28-29.
(Looks at the theme for this year's Playday, the annual celebration of children's play. The theme, Streets for Play, Play for All, will focus on attitudes towards street play, and the barriers to, and benefits of, playing in a street environment).

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19. **LITTLE, H. and WYVER, S. (2008)**
Outdoor play: does avoiding the risks reduce the benefits?
Australian Journal of Early Childhood, vol.33, no.2 (Jun). pp33-40.
(Focuses on risk minimisation in outdoor environments and asks if avoiding the risks reduces the benefits. Discusses the current status of outdoor play in urbanised Western societies such as Australia and the growth of a risk-averse culture).
20. **MATHIVET, S. (2008)**
Understanding the EYFS. Making the most of the great outdoors.
Under Five, (Apr). pp14-15.
(The early years foundation stage places great importance on children learning through outdoor play. This article looks at some of the benefits of being outside).
21. **MAYNARD, T. (2007)**
Outdoor play and learning.
Education 3-13, vol.35, no.4, pp305-307.
(Introduces the special issue on outdoor play and learning. Summarises recent debates about children's use of the outdoor environment, including concerns about obesity and lack of connectedness with nature. Looks at the curriculum frameworks for early years in England and Wales, which require schools to use a more play-based approach to learning, including the use of the outdoor environment).
22. **MEIRE, J. (2008)**
A (discouraging?) social context for free (outdoor) play?
Playwords, no.36 (Autumn). pp10-12.
(Provides an overview of research relating to outdoor play, risk and challenge).
23. **MOORE, R., and COSCO, N. (2009)**
The re-emerging importance of outdoor play in nature: design opportunities.
Playrights, no.1 (Apr) pp4-6.
(Outlines the benefits of play in the natural environment and considers how design of outdoor recreational facilities, such as zoos and botanical gardens, should be carried out with children's needs in mind. Includes three examples of successful environments).
24. **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).
25. **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).
26. **ROONEY, K. (2009)**
Street play: from Home Zones to DIY streets.
Playtoday, no.66 (Summer), pp10-11.
(Describes how the benefits of Home Zones are being introduced by the more affordable model. DIY Streets, a pilot project run by Sustrans).
27. **RYDER RICHARDSON, G. (2007)**
Getting outdoors: whatever the weather.
Early Education, no.53 (Autumn). pp8-9.
(Early years curricula in the UK recognise the importance of outdoor play. Ryder Richardson offers suggestions for helping children to experience the outdoors in all weather conditions throughout the year).
28. **SHARPE, D. (2008)**
The great outdoors.
Playwords, no.37 (Winter) pp16-17.
(Gives practical ideas for outdoor play with little or no equipment).

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29. **THIGPEN, B. (2007)**
Outdoor play: combating sedentary lifestyles.
Zero to Three, vol.28, no.1 (Sep). pp19-23.
(In the United States, increasing sedentary lifestyles are contributing to obesity and other health concerns as children spend less time outside engaging in active play. This article looks at the benefits of outdoor play for younger children, and gives suggestions for developing developmentally appropriate outdoor spaces for infants and toddlers).
30. **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.
(Children's activity in their free time may have a significant impact on overall physical activity levels, however, little is known about the influences on children's active free play. 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).
31. **VOCE, A. (2008)**
Designing better places to play.
Inform, no.3 (Autumn). pp30-31.
(The director of Play England looks at the guiding principles for designing and getting the most from children's play areas).
32. **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. Findings showed that nearly 40 per cent of children spend less than half an hour per day playing outdoors after school. Independent mobility was significantly associated with outdoor play).

Useful organisations

Children's Play Information Service

www.ncb.org.uk/cpis

Play England

www.playengland.org.uk

Kids

www.kids.org.uk

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