Learning through Play and Imagination

Due to health and safety concerns related to the pandemic, *Learning through Play and Imagination* is now scheduled for April 1–2, 2022.

When?
FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 2022 8:00AM TO SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 2022 4:30PM

Where?
St. Louis, Missouri, USA

Organizers
Thalia R. Goldstein, *George Mason University*; Deena Weisberg, *Villanova University*; Jacob Schatz, *New York University*
Many have argued that children learn through playing, hearing stories, and engaging in a variety of imaginative activities. But how, exactly, does this process work? Which aspects of play sessions or fictional stories are particularly effective for children’s learning, and why? Which topics do children learn most readily through these kinds of activities, and at what ages? How do aspects of children’s individual temperaments or developmental environments impact this process? This special topic meeting examines these and other related questions, with the aim of identifying gaps in the literature and proposing evidence-based strategies for how play and imagination can best be used in early education with topics such as:

- Physical Play and Play Space Design
- Non-Human Play
- Imagination and Media in Early Childhood
- Play and Imagination across Cultures
- And more!

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