

VALUE OF PLAY AND SELECTION OF PLAY MATERIAL



VALUE OF PLAY

- Children develop their physical and intellectual abilities during play.
- They develop moral values through playing with others.
- Play can help develop creativity and provide a therapeutic release from stress and tension produced by environmental influences.

VALUE OF PLAY

- Physical
- Intellectual
- Moral
- Emotional
- Creative
- Therapeutic
- Socialization

Physical development



Intellectual development



Moral development



Emotional development



Creative development



Therapeutic



Socialization



CHARACTERISTICS OF PLAY

- Social affective play
- Sense-pleasure play
- Imitative play
- Dramatic play
- Formal- competitive games
- Daydreaming

TYPES OF PLAY

According to Parten and Newhall (1943), play behavior can be described as:

- Unoccupied play
- Solitary independent play
- Onlooker play
- Parallel play
- Associative play
- Cooperative play

Unoccupied play



Solitary independent play



Onlooker play



Parallel play



Associative play



Cooperative play



SELECTION AND CARE OF PLAY MATERIALS

- ❑ Safe, washable, light weight, simple, durable, easy to handle and non breakable.
- ❑ Realistic, attractive, constructive and offer problem solving opportunities.
- ❑ No sharp edges and no small removable parts which may be swallowed or inhaled.
- ❑ Not over stimulating and frustrating.
- ❑ No toxic paints, not costly, not flammable and not excessive noisy.
- ❑ Play things with electrical plugs should be avoided, only children over 8 years of age should be permitted to use them.

SUITABLE PLAY MATERIALS ACCORDING TO AGE

Infant:

4weeks to 4months: bright and moving objects, hanging cradle toys, musical toys, balloons, rattles etc.

4months to 6months: soft squeeze toys, rattles, toy animal, balloons etc.

7months to 12months: motion toys, water play, blocks, doll, ball, musical toys, picture books, rocking horse walker, transporting objects, pull and push toys.

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SUITABLE PLAY MATERIALS ACCORDING TO AGE

- **Toddlers:** fitting toys, pull-push toys, pyramid toys, blocks, vehicles, ball, doll, pots and pans, household articles, mud or clay, crayons, picture books or cards, play telephone, doll's house etc.
- **Preschool children:** puppets, animals, dolls, doll's house, carpentry tools, large blocks, paint materials, colored picture books, doctor set toys, hospital equipment (like plastic syringe, blunt scissors), housekeeping toys, paper modelling clay, cooking materials, tricycles etc.

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SUITABLE PLAY MATERIALS ACCORDING TO AGE

- **School-age children:** These age group children prefer games than toys.
- Children enjoy games of muscular activity, running, climbing, swinging etc.
- They like carpentry tools, painting materials, chess, Chinese-checkers, cards, balls, crafts, music, puzzles, aquarium, maps, animals to make zoo or farm or pets, gardening etc.

PARENTS RESPONSIBILITIES IN CHILD'S PLAY

- ❑ Correct use of toys. Parents should explain the directions for use and the caution labels.
- ❑ Safe storing of toys in a space with easy reach and away from busy areas.
- ❑ Keeping the play things in good conditions. Parents should repair or discard damaged and broken toys.
- ❑ Keeping the play materials of older brothers and sisters away from younger children. The wrong toys for the wrong ages can be injurious to children.
- ❑ Electronic toys and games can also be shared by the adults in the children's play time. Parents may interact and initiate the use with precautions.

NURSES RESPONSIBILITIES TOWARDS A CHILD'S PLAY

- Regarding selection
- Regarding maintenance
- Regarding storage
- Regarding supervision