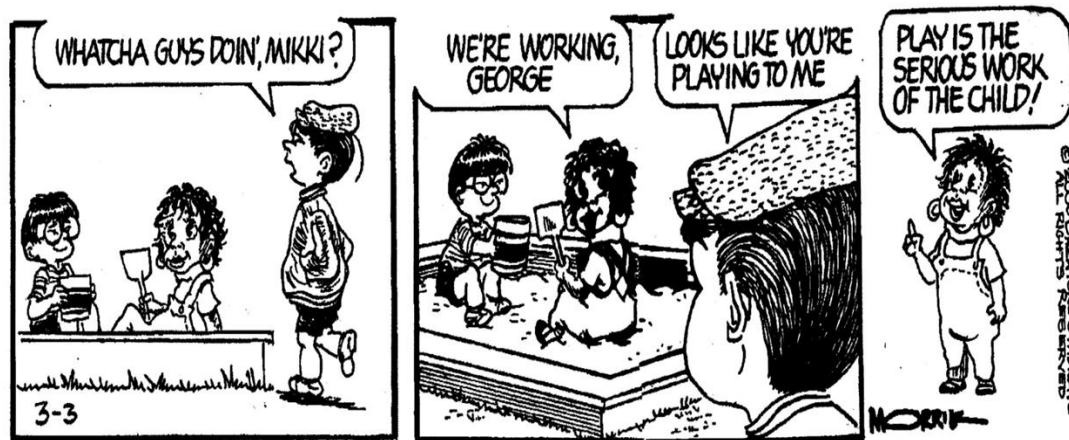


## Children & Play: It's Serious Work

Intro/Bell Ringer: Show the cartoon and have students write a paragraph explaining what it means. Discuss ideas.



Play is the serious work of the child. It's what the child does all day just like you go to school all day or your parents might work all day. It's how they learn about themselves and the world around them.

Activity: Have students complete the "Think-Pair-Share-Compare" activity with the question "Why do children need play?" When you get to the compare part, use the article "Why Children Need Play" found here: <http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/article/why-children-need-play-0>

Notes: Have students take notes on "The Developmental Benefits of Play" (PIES) PPT.

Project: "What Are Children Learning When They Play \_\_\_\_\_?" (Insert the activity.) Randomly assign each student or each pair of students a topic of play. Using the internet and class resources students

will create a visual sharing the below information which will be presented to the class. Visual can be Poster, PPT or Prezi & include:

- The Play Activity as the Title
- Description of what children can do when playing this activity.
- When I play with \_\_\_\_\_, I learn...label all the things children can learn by playing this activity according to the PIES.
- Include pictures/illustrations of children engaged in this activity.

Activities to choose from include: outdoor play, art projects, music & creative movement, cooking, blocks, dramatic play, sand & water. And puzzles & manipulatives,

Visual Presentations: Students will present their visuals to the class and students will take notes on the presentations using the provided form and then use them to complete the follow-up "The Value of Play".

View: Children speaking about the importance of play YouTube clip as a conclusion to above info and a prelude to the following project. (Notice many of the toys/activities the children are playing with.)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sby38BbLZuY>

Assessment: Top Ten Reasons to Encourage Play

Create a top ten list of reasons of why play should be encouraged. This list should be funny but truthful and be based on the article, notes, class discussions and DVD information. Lists will be typed or creatively/neatly hand written and include appropriate graphics.

Ex. Letting your child pretend to be a pilot, doctor, teacher or vet will show them the world is full of possibilities and opportunities.

Present Top Ten lists to the class and then display in the classroom.

# "What Are Children Learning When They Play?"

Play Activity is \_\_\_\_\_

Using the internet and class resources students will create a visual sharing the below information which will be presented to the class. Visual can be Poster, PPT or Prezi & include:

- The Play Activity as the Title
- Description of what children can do when playing this activity.
- When I play with \_\_\_\_\_, I learn...label all the things children can learn by playing this activity according to the PIES.
- Include pictures/illustrations of children engaged in this activity.

## Rubric

Criteria	Present	Not Present
Play Activity as Title (5)		
Description of what children can do when playing with this activity (5)		
What children can learn according to the PIES (10)		
Pictures & Illustrations of children engaged in the activity (5)		
Oral Presentation (10)		

Total Score: (35)

Comments: