Play & Assessment? Yes!
Reciprocal Partners in the Early Childhood Classroom Dance
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Who Am I?

Assessment = all the feels
My Journey

WHAT IS PLAY?
INTERSECTION
ASSESSMENT IN ECE

How Play Connects to Learning
4 Essential Components of Play

- Self-chosen
- Structured & Defined
- Intrinsically motivated
- Imaginative

- Preferred objects
- Autonomy
- Differentiated
Structured & Defined
• Rules of play
• Social Negotiation
• Flexible

Intrinsically-motivated
• Deep Involvement
• Focus & Concentration

Imaginative
• Symbolism
• Metacognition
• Perspective-Taking
4 Essential Components of Play

- Imaginative
- Self-chosen
- Structured & Defined
- Intrinsically-motivated

Play is universal

• Wonder
• Time
• Partner in play
Let’s talk assessment
Every stage of development is complete in itself. The 3-year-old is not an incomplete 5-year-old. The child is not an incomplete adult. Never are we simply 'on our way'. Always we have arrived.

Meaningful Assessment

- Authentic
- Meaningful
- Culturally-relevant
- Paints a picture
- Whole picture
- A way to celebrate the child
Assessment + Play = a synergistic classroom dance

Let's check those observation skills.

• What do I know about this child?
• What is that child interested in?
• What is that child capable of?
• What can I do to engage and support that child?
I see you
I know you
I value you

Maslow's hierarchy of needs
Inclusion is being invited to the party.
Acceptance is being invited to dance.
Belonging is being empowered to dance like no one is watching.

Montrece Ransom

Let’s start a revolution.

Academic push-down
Social/Emotional push-up

Write down an idea you want to try.

What is something you want to learn more about?
Book:
*Uncover the Roots of Challenging Behaviors: Create Responsive Environments Where Young Children Thrive*

Childhood is not a linear race to be quickly and efficiently completed.

It's a meandering stroll of self-discovery to be enjoyed and contemplated.