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| **Minor Award Name** | **Early Childhood Education and Play**  |
| **Minor Award Code** | 5N1773 |
| **Level** | 5 |

**Some suggested resources to support delivery:**

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| **Theme/Topic** | **Type** | **Relevance** | **Author/Source** | **Web Link** |
| **Aistear - Early Childhood Curriculum Framework for children from birth to six years in Ireland** | e-book | Essential reading - Aistear describes the types of learning (dispositions, values and attitudes, skills, knowledge, and understanding) that are important for children in their early years, and offers ideas and suggestions as to how this learning might be nurtured. The Framework also provides guidelines on supporting children’s learning through partnerships with parents, interactions, play, and assessment. | National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) | <http://www.ncca.biz/Aistear/> |
| **Síolta** | eManuals | Essential reading - Síolta, the National Quality Framework for Early Childhood Education in Ireland is designed to define, assess and support the improvement of quality across all aspects of practice in Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) settings where children aged birth to six years are present. | Síolta was developed by the Centre for Early Childhood Development and Education on behalf of the Department of Education and Skills | <http://siolta.ie/> |
| [**Child Care (Pre- School Services) Regulations**](http://www.dcya.gov.ie/documents/publications/Child_Care_Pre-_School_Services_Regs_2006.pdf)  | Online document | Child Care (Pre-School Services) (No 2) Regulations 2006 and Child Care (Pre-School Services) (No 2) (Amendment) Regulations 2006.  | Published by the Stationery Office, Dublin  | <http://www.dcya.gov.ie/documents/publications/Child_Care_Pre-_School_Services_Regs_2006.pdf>  |
| **The purpose of Play** | Website | **Clovers the following topics:****What does learning look like?****Why is unstructured play important?****How does unstructured play affect child development?** | Early Childhood NewsArticle by Krystyann Krywko | <http://www.earlychildhoodnews.com/earlychildhood/article_view.aspx?ArticleID=743>  |
| **Different types of play** | Resource sheet | **Resource sheet developed for parents but provides a good introductory overview of play types** | Early Childhood Education and Care, Department of Education, Training and Employment, Queensland Government | <http://deta.qld.gov.au/earlychildhood/pdfs/tip-sheets/different-types-play.pdf>  |
| **Outdoor Play Matters** | Booklet  | Written for parents and carers of young children up to the age of six, although most of the information applies to children of all ages. It highlights the benefits of outdoor play and shows how playing outside supports a child’s development. | Barnardos | <http://www.barnardos.ie/assets/files/publications/free/Barnardos_OudoorPlay%20final%20pdf%20for%20web.pdf> |
| **Early Childhood Education & Play** | Book | An introduction to early childhood education, detailing the various approaches to curriculum, theories of play, and the principles and philosophy of Aistear and Síolta in providing for the holistic development of the child.Written for the Level 5 Early Childhood Education and Play (5N1773) and Approaches to Early Childhood Education (5N1763) modules, as awarded by QQI.The book:Outlines the various types, stages, patterns and purposes of play, including a child-led approach to play.Explores the role of the adult in nurturing and developing the child’s learning experience in the ECCE setting.Introduces the elements of the ECCE environment, both indoors and outdoors, and their effects on the child’s development.Describes and evaluates the core concepts, philosophies and programmes of Montessori, Froebel and Steiner’s early childhood education approaches. | Author(s): Eilis Flood and Catriona HardyPublished by: Gill and MacMillan | <http://www.gillmacmillan.ie/childcare/childcare/early-childhood-curriculum1>  |
| Child Care and Development | Book | This book is divided into the following sections:Family and Home; Becoming a parent; Caring for babies; Development; Early Childhood; Food; Health and Safety; The family in the community. Broken down into 76 simple chunks that each explain a short topic, Pamela Minett's approach uses illustration as much as words to explain the key concepts and show you what is meant. The emphasis is on practical guidance based on the best and most up-to-date advice in the field.Only some sections of the book are relevant to this programme, however the book has relevance across other ECCE programme modules.  | Author: Pamela MinettPublished by: Hodder Education | http://www.amazon.co.uk/Child-Care-Development-6th-Edition/dp/1444117130 |
| **A basic introduction to child development theories** | Booklet  | Covers some of the best know theorists in an easy to read format. | The Centre for Learning Innovation, State of New South Wales, Department of Education and Training. | <http://lrrpublic.cli.det.nsw.edu.au/lrrSecure/Sites/LRRView/7401/documents/theories_outline.pdf>  |
| **The role of adults in children’s play** | Leaflet/ Booklet | Information booklet on why and how adults should provide for children’s play. | Play Wales.Funded by the Welsh Government | <http://www.playwales.org.uk/login/uploaded/documents/INFORMATION%20SHEETS/role%20of%20adults%20in%20childrens%20play.pdf> |
| **Quality Adult-Child Interactions in Early Years Services** | Book | Research on quality provision in the early years and positive outcomes for children has led to an increasing recognition of the central role of relationships and interactions between practitioners and children. This book aims to support early childhood practitioners to explore current theory and best practice on the central core role of their profession: relationships and interactions, quite simply on ‘being with’ young children. It will guide practitioners in their day-to-day practice and can be used as a tool for continuing professional development.The book covers:Interactions and relationships; Attachment; Social and emotional development; Key person systems; Service ethos and culture; Play and learning; Interactions strategies; Interactions throughout the day | Published by: Barnardos | <http://www.barnardos.ie/resources-advice/publications/publications-to-buy/quality-adult-child-interactions-in-early-years-services.html> |
| **Play and development** | Newspaper article | Play 'integral' to childhood development: Why, when play is a proven and successful way of learning, we are intent on driving it out of the classroom | Telegraph NewspaperArticle By Leigh-Anne Stradeski | <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/educationopinion/11012833/Play-integral-to-childhood-development.html>  |
| Choosing toys | Newspaper article | Choosing Toys: What Eliminating Gender Labels in the Toy Aisles Really Means | Huffington postArticle by [Laurie Schacht](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/laurie-schacht/) | <http://www.huffingtonpost.com/laurie-schacht/choosing-toys-what-eliminating-gender-labels-in-the-toy-aisles-really-means_b_7978584.html>  |
| **Storytelling** | Website | 8 Easy Steps to Great Story Telling. A compilation of simple story telling techniques that are useful when reading aloud to a child. | Guruparents | <http://www.guruparents.com/story-telling.html/>  |
| **Critiquing Children’s Toys** | Lesson Plan | Application of cognitive, physical, emotional and social developmental constructs to critiquing children’s toys. | American Psychological Association (APA) | <http://www.apa.org/ed/precollege/undergrad/ptacc/teaching-developmental-concepts.aspx> |
| **Critiquing Children’s Toys** | Activity | Visit a toy store and consider a number of questions about the toys | Blinn College | <http://www.blinn.edu/socialscience/LDThomas/Feldman/Handouts/0805hand.htm> |
| **Choosing safe toys** | Website | Useful information when critiquing a play item or assessing the value of a play item | KidsHealth from Nemours | <http://kidshealth.org/parent/firstaid_safe/home/safe_toys.html#a_Keeping_Toys_Safe_at_Home>  |
| A Guide to Choosing Toys | Website | Points to consider when choosing toys 0-10 years | rollercoaster.ie | <http://www.rollercoaster.ie/Article/tabid/156/ArticleName/A_Guide_to_Choosing_Toys/Default.aspx>  |
| **Toy safety** | Website | Guidelines on choosing safe toys. Website includes options to search by age, injury type, location etc. | Child Accident Prevention Trust – UK Charity | <http://www.capt.org.uk/safety-advice/choosing-safe-toys>  |
| **The indoor and outdoor learning space** | Document | Guide to Play and the Learning Environment | Kildare County Childcare Committee | http://www.kkccc.ie/uploads/9/9/6/1/9961694/guide-to-play-the-learning-environment.pdf |
| **READY, STEADY, PLAY! A National Play Policy** | Document | Includes the context for developing a play policy, children’s play in Ireland today, and challenges and solutions: the case for better play  | National Childrens OfficePublished by the Stationery Office | http://www.dcya.gov.ie/documents/publications/NCOPlayPolicySUMM\_eng.pdf |
| **Voluntary Organisations** | Online book | Directory of National Voluntary Organisations and Other Agencies | Citizens Information Board | <http://www.citizensinformationboard.ie/publications/voluntary_sector/downloads/directory_of_volunteers2008.pdf>  |

**Useful Organisations:**

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| **Name** | **Contact Information** |
| Early Childhood Ireland | <http://www.earlychildhoodireland.ie/>  |
| Barnardos | <http://www.barnardos.ie/>  |
| National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) | [www.ncca.ie](http://www.ncca.ie)  |
| Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) | <http://www.qqi.ie/>  |
| Further Education Support Service (FESS) | [www.fess.ie](http://www.fess.ie)  |
| Childminding Ireland | <http://www.childminding.ie/>  |
| [Forbairt Naíonraí Teo](http://www.naionrai.ie/)   | <http://www.naionrai.ie/>  |

**Other Resources:**

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| **MOOCs (Massive Online Open Courses)** |
| Online courses delivered mainly by Universities and Colleges worldwide.Useful to search regularly for new courses and new start dates. Most courses are free. Charge often applies if assessment and certification is required.Provide excellent CPD for individuals or resources that can support teaching and learning. | What is a MOOC?<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eW3gMGqcZQc> Providers of MOOCse.g.<https://www.mooc-list.com/><https://www.coursera.org/> <https://www.udemy.com/><http://www.extension.harvard.edu/open-learning-initiative><https://www.uclaextension.edu/pages/search.aspx?c=free+courses><http://oyc.yale.edu/>  |