

# Learning to guide role play

The experiences of student kindergarten teachers

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## First Iiro will start

I Hello everyone – hey!
I'm a prince named Roy.
My palace has broken down
so I'm in need of a friend, now!
Before the dark night will come,
a new roof has to be done
as a shelter of everyone!



# Aims of this presentation

• To outline our course on play, where student teachers learn to guide role play

To describe the experiences of the student teachers,
 both during and after the course

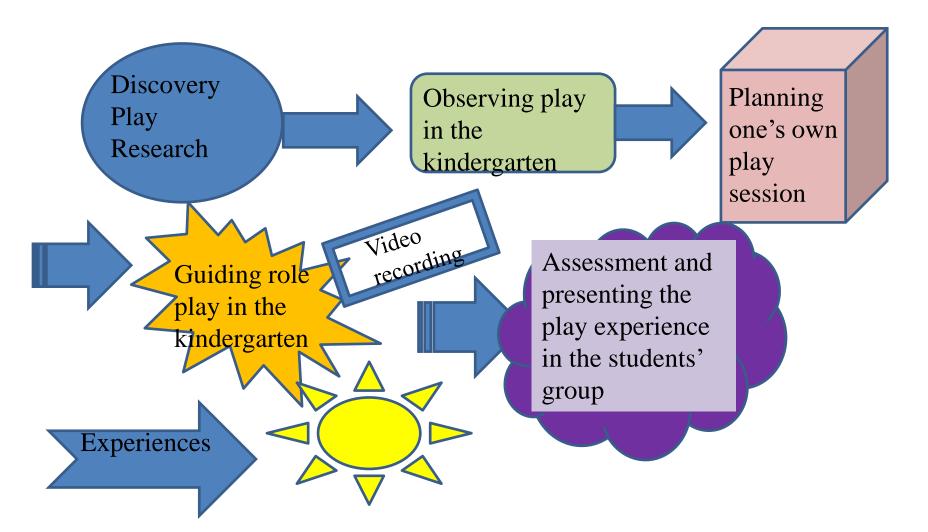


# Play as a Cultural, Developmental and Pedagogical Phenomenon (5 ECTS)

- Lectures 14 hours
- Exercises 12 hours
- Group work 4 hours
- Independent work 105 hours
- Exam 2 hours on the lectures and the textbook: Van Hoorn, J., Nourot, P.M., Scales, B., & Alward, K. R. *Play at the Center of the Curriculum*



## **Exercises include**



## Model of planning for play Timing \_\_\_\_\_

Observations

Environment: physical and social

The arts and drama

Language and interaction

Science and exploration

Types of play
Place
Tools

Social development

Physical development

Emotional development

# ICE CREAM PARLOR: Aims

#### ARTS and drama

Magic sand: modelling and decorations

Enhancing imagination

#### Science

Magic sand - fascinating material Familiarizing cafe culture

#### Physical training

Fine motor skills

Moving in the role

## Guided role play

Place: dining room

Tools:

Magic sand, role clothes, dishes

#### Language and interaction

Interaction between the vendor and customer → pragmatic consciousness

Literate behaviours

Media education: video recording

#### Social development

Negotiation and co-operation skills Taking a role

### Emotional development

Experiences of success
Resilience after disappointment



# Students' experiences of guided play

- The children's play was unexpected:
  - Full of real-life experiences
  - Mutating
  - Multiform
- There were longer-lasting play sessions, and the children entered into play worlds
- One theme started the play, but it continued with another
- Often, there was a trip



# Students' experiences (2)

- There was rough and tumble, and horseplay
- Nurture play with both girls and boys
- "The model was quite operational and helpful"



## **Instructive experiences**

- Natural experience: real children, real kindergarten
  - Affirmed expertise
- Shared experiences meant that much was learned
- Inspiring course
- Enhanced imagination
- The adult's presence was essential in the children's play
  - This is clear in the video recordings
- A holistic experience, including the recording process
  - Planning, guiding, and assessing the play session
- Preparing the presentation



## Real outcome in 2014

- Bus play travelled to Indonesia:
  - From my network writing of the students' experiences
  - One person made contact, and she was eager to talk with our student who had guided the bus play
  - She liked the idea so much, she planned to document bus play in her book written in Indonesia





# **Experiences**

- The students had more creative freedom to prepare the play than in the kindergarten
- Different kinds of children
  - Many children
  - Children and families from an asylum centre
  - Students' own children
- Created togetherness for the students
  - Group work
  - Different kinds of views, same aim