



# Moving Beyond Empty and Fill to Deep Investigations

# What is play?

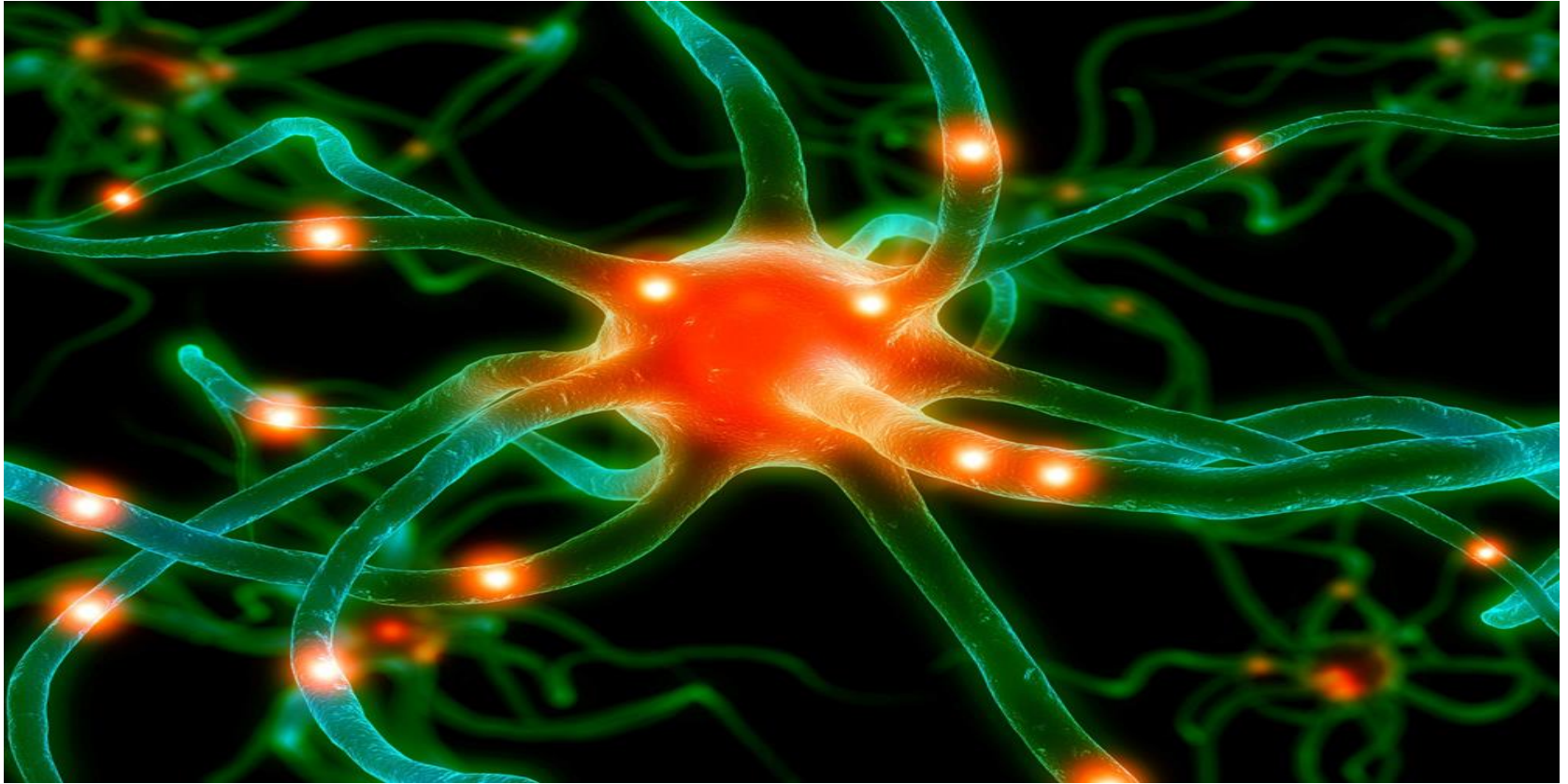


- Voluntary
  - Meaningful
    - Symbolic
      - Rule-governed
        - Pleasurable
          - Episodic

# The role of play in learning



# Cognitive development and play



# SEAL

***Stimulus*** (any sensory provocation)



***Emotion*** (positive or negative)



***Attention*** (positive emotions drive executive functions—negative emotions drive survival)



***Learning*** (the response to the attentional variant)

(adapted from Robert Sylwester's *A Biological Brain in a Cultural Classroom*)

# Projects



# Science in the world of the very young







# Technology tools



# Everyday engineering





Art,  
imagination,  
and  
creativity

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# Math all around



# Choice and self-regulation



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# Materials and multisensory learning



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# Making connections

# Discovery and divergent learning



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# High challenge and low threat





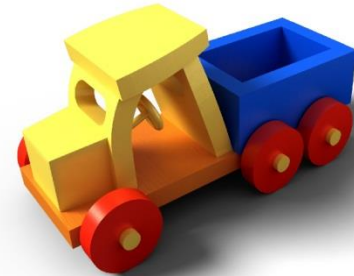
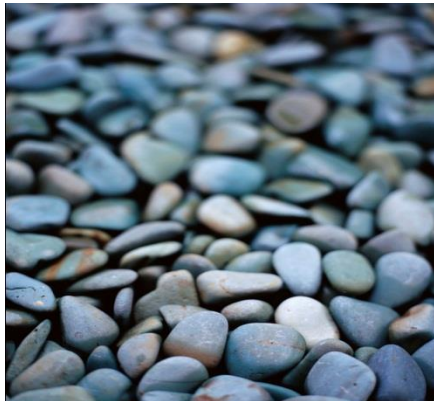
Novelty

# Social situation





# Manipulatives





# Inquiry

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# Environment appealing and stimulating





Classroom set up

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# Resiliency and success





Putting it all  
together



# Questions



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