

**TITLE**

---

---

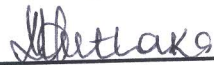
A STUDY ON THE IMPACT OF PLAY ON EARLY  
CHILDHOOD LEARNING AMONG THE CHILDREN  
AGED BETWEEN FIVE AND SIX YEARS

**BY: LYDIAH WANGUI WAITHAKA**  
**(REG. NO. E122/125/2000)**

TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY,  
UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI  
IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF  
DIPLOMA IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION  
YEAR 2001

## DECLARATION

This study is my original work  
and has not been presented for a diploma  
or a degree in any other university.



---

Lydia Wangui Waithaka

This study has been submitted for examination and approved by the  
university supervisor



---

Dr. Origa - Lecturer

## ABSTRACT

This study was aimed at verifying the significant of play in the process of learning in children. This is due to the fact that play is one of the things that children have in common. Children engage themselves in play in all they do.

From literature reviewed on play and learning its noted that play has a greater impact on cognitive development of a child.

Through interaction with the Pre-school teachers it was observed that learning using play and play materials makes learning very easy.

From a teaching experiment done by the researcher it was noted that children enjoy learning through play and looking at their performance it was noted that pupils perform so well when play and play materials unlike when pupils are taught without play and play materials.

Children appear to be say in their hearts "please don't tell me! Show me. Allow me to see it, touch it, smell it and if possible taste it"

Through interaction with pupils it is noted that it is possible for a caregiver to know the interest, potential and capability of a child during play and put some reinforcements. It is also possible for a caregiver to notice the weakness of a child during play and guide accordingly.

In conclusion we can say that pupils retain more of what they have heard and seen and even manipulated than what they have only heard. This therefore implies that play and play materials promotes children's learning and hence better performance.

Stutaka