

**PLAY AND ITS EFFECTS ON EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION IN THE
SELECTED PRIMARY SCHOOLS, MURANG'A
SOUTH DISTRICT, KENYA**

BY

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DECLARATION

I, **MUCHOKI GEOFFRY MAINA** declare that the material in this book has been done entirely by my effort and has not been presented else where for any academic qualification.

SIGNED



.....
MUCHOKI GEOFFRY MAINA

DATE:

25/8/2010

APPROVAL

This research report is submitted for examination with my approval as a University Supervisor.

Signed

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25 August 2010

SUPERVISOR

DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to my beloved wife Eva and to my son Charles.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I also owe a lot of appreciation to all those who assisted me in carrying out this research. I am grateful to my supervisor Mr. Mugweri Fredrick who tirelessly went through my work and inspired me to dig deeper into the core of the matter. His kind criticism, patience and understanding, assisted me a great deal.

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I wish to thank my family especially my Parents Mr. Charles Kariuki and Mrs. Martha Njoki and my brother peter for their love, financial support and inspiration during my stay in Kampala International University (K.I.U).

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of the study was to investigate the Effectiveness of Play on Early Childhood Development in ECDE Centers of Maragwa Division, Murang'a South District Kenya

The specific objectives of the study were to Determine the profile of the respondents in regards to: age, gender and academic level, to investigate the importance of playing in regards to: academic achievement, problem solving, social and linguistic competence Confidence building and Healthy development and to identify the hindrances to children's playing

The methods used for data collection were questionnaires to the teachers and focus group discussion with the parents. The findings indicated that playing had a positive effect on the performance of early childhood children, playing helped children learn how to solve problems, it also indicated that children who play learn to trust people and in the process learn to be confident and indicated that lack of enough playing materials was the major hindrance to children's play Government should make sure early childhood centers have enough and strong playing materials before they are licensed. The community and parents should be sensitized about the importance of playing so that they also participate in children's playing activities . Schools should make sure they fulfill what is in the curriculum by involving children in playing activities.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the study

Kenya is a primarily rural, Agrarian, Neocolonial society consisting of numerous ethnic and racial groups, with over 40 distinctive language groups and diverse religious communities. Until recently, child care and early socialization of preschool-age children were governed by "powerful family / community structures and traditions" (Woodhead, 1996). Although these indigenous, pre-colonial traditions remain deeply entrenched in the values of many Kenyan families, few communities have been unaffected by the rapid social, economic, and cultural changes brought on by urbanization, dislocation, globalization, and austerity measures associated with structural adjustments, increasing poverty, and the impact of HIV/AIDS (Swadener et al, 2000).

The demand for early childhood development (ECD) services has increased considerably in Kenya as a result of changing family structures and lifestyles. The number of extended families continues to decrease, and more parents are working outside the home. Many households are headed by single parents, primarily mothers or grandmothers; one third of rural households are headed by women¹ (Adams & Mburugu, 1994). These rural households, as well as those on agricultural plantations and in some urban areas, have the greatest need for alternative child care. Mothers are away from home most of the day, often having no choice but to leave their children without adequate care (Njenga & Kabiru, 2001). The sad part is that these trends have denied children then chance to involve in playing,

Play is essential to development because it contributes to the cognitive, physical, social, and emotional well-being of children and youth. Play is so important to optimal child development that it has been recognized by the United Nations High Commission for Human Rights as a right of every child. (UNHCR 2006)

However this birthright is challenged by forces including child labor and exploitation practices, war and neighborhood violence, and the limited resources available to

children living in poverty. However, even those children who are fortunate enough to have abundant available resources and who live in relative peace may not be receiving the full benefits of play. Lareau . (2003)

Many of these children are being raised in an increasingly hurried and pressured style that may limit the protective benefits they would gain from child driven play. (UNHCR 2006) Because every child deserves the opportunity to develop to their unique potential, child advocates must consider all factors that interfere with optimal development and press for circumstances that allow each child to fully reap the advantages associated with play.

Preschool curricula in Kenya have become increasingly skills-based and academic, in order to prepare children for the high-stakes Standard One interview (the 1st-grade entrance screening test). Because of this the children are stressed and therefore they are not given a chance to discover for themselves new experiences through play. It is upon this background that the researcher has picked interest in the study that is playing in early childhood development.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Although play has been a well-established component in the curriculum of early childhood education, there are still no realistic emphasis put forth by teachers on physical education participation. This fact has led to the corresponding decline of academic dynamics. The study is therefore established to investigate why non-participation in play has a corresponding effect on the academic performance.

1.3 Purpose of the Study

The purpose of the study was to investigate the importance of playing on the early childhood education.

1.4 Objectives of the study

The general objective of the study was to investigate the role of playing and the academic achievement of early childhood.

Specific objectives

Specifically this study sought to;

1. Determine the profile of the respondents in regards to:
age
gender
Academic level.
2. To investigate the importance of playing in regards to:
academic achievement
problem solving
social and linguistic competence
Confidence building.
Healthy development
3. To identify the hindrances to children's playing

1.5 Research Questions

1. What is the relationship between playing and academic achievement of children
2. What is the relationship between playing and problem solving?
3. What is the relationship between playing and social and linguistic competence
4. What is the relationship between playing and confidence building?
5. What are the hindrances to children's playing?

1.6 Scope of the Study

The study was carried out in Kenya and to narrow it down in Murang'a South district in the selected primary schools. It was limited by the objectives of the study. The study was carried out between April 2010 to August 2010.

1.7 Significance of the Study

Playing is important in child development and yet most children are denied the opportunity to play. The study will therefore be of benefit to the children who have been denied the opportunity to play.

The government, teachers and parents will understand the importance of play; hence involve children on play activities.

The teachers will also know what kinds of play they can engage the children in and how they can benefit them.

Parents will know the importance of playing and therefore involve their children as well as participate in playing with them.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction.

This chapter discusses the literature related to the study. For the purpose of the study the concepts below are discussed;

2.1 Importance of playing to children

2.1.1 Academic achievement

Numerous studies of literacy skill development through play, which embed literacy materials within play settings in preschool, kindergarten, and multiage programs, have typically shown increases in children's use of literacy materials and engagement in literacy acts (e.g., Christie & Enz, 1992; Einarsdottir, 2000; Neuman & Roskos, 1992; Stone & Christie, 1996). Using such a literacy intervention, Vukelich (1994) found that kindergarten children's ability to read print embedded in the environment was increased.

2.1.2 Problem Solving

A number of researchers have focused on the relationship of play to specific cognitive strategies such as self-regulation, narrative recall, divergent problem solving, and rule understanding. Following Vygotsky (1978), who theorized that young children use private speech in play to regulate their behavior, eventually transforming this private speech into self-regulation through internal thought, Krafft and Berk (1998) compared the private speech of preschool children in Montessori and traditional play-oriented programs and found that more private speech occurred in the play-oriented setting, especially during pretend play with fantasy characters. They conclude that, at the preschool level, "make-believe play serves as a vital context for the development of self-regulation". They suggest that social pretense, which requires children to determine task goals and carry them out, provides more opportunities for self-regulating private speech than do less complex play settings and settings with tasks having predetermined goals and greater teacher direction.

In a meta-analysis, Fisher (1992) indicated that there is a body of evidence showing the effectiveness of play, especially socio dramatic play, in promoting problem-solving abilities. In order to clarify what types of play and problem solving were related and whether these relationships were unidirectional or reciprocal, Wyver and Spence (1999) looked at two types of problem solving (divergent and convergent), two types of divergent problem solving (figural and semantic), and a range of play types and play social levels.

In one study (controlling for IQ), they found relationships between thematic pretense and semantic divergent problem solving and between cooperative play and both semantic and figural divergent problem solving. They then gave some children divergent problem-solving training (figural and semantic) and found that there was a significant increase in figural problem-solving ability and in thematic play for the trained group. They gave other children pretend play training (thematic/associative, thematic/cooperative, or cooperative/non thematic) and found the thematic training groups increased in thematic play and in semantic problem solving, whereas the cooperative play groups increased in cooperative play and on both semantic and figural problem solving.

The researchers concluded that there seems to be a reciprocal, rather than a unidirectional, relationship between problem solving and pretend play, with cooperative social play having a more general influence on divergent problem solving and thematic play having a more specific influence on semantic problem solving. They suggest further study of these complex relationships.

2.1.3 Social and Linguistic Competence

Because pretense involves language use and takes place in social contexts, many studies of pretense include information on social and linguistic competence, which are also vital for school success. In an extensive observational study of pretend play, Sawyer (1997) found that, rather than following a script, much of the preschool children's pretense involved improvisational exchanges and that implicit, in-frame play

strategies were more successful than explicit, out-of-frame strategies. He provides rich examples of the skill children exhibit in using improvisation in pretense. The movement to complex social pretense does not occur smoothly for some children, however, as researchers studying the consequences of social or language difficulties on play and cognitive development have observed. For example, Rubin and Coplan (1998) report on a series of studies that followed children who exhibited nonsocial or "withdrawn" play behaviors during preschool; they found that early social withdrawal predicts peer rejection, social anxiety, loneliness, depression, and negative self-esteem in later childhood and adolescence, as well as having negative implications for academic success.

2.1.4 Confidence building

Through playing children learn how to be confident. By interacting with others they are learning to express themselves with many people. For example in pretend play they all take up roles and pretend to be the other person Pellegrini AD, Boyd B. (1993)

2.2. Hindrances to children's playing

Poverty is one of the hindrances to children's playing. In today's high demanding world parents find themselves working and therefore do not have the time to look after their children leave alone play with them.

The process of play development may also be affected by socioeconomic factors. Observations at two time periods of the play of children participating in Title I preschool programs in 22 classrooms did not show the same increase in social pretense that is typically found over time in most preschool studies (Farran & Son-Yarbrough, 2001). In this study, the play state with the most positive relationship to quantity of verbal behaviors was associative play (in which children interact briefly), but over the two time periods, associative play decreased while parallel play (in which children play along side others but do not interact) increased. This trend was most evident in Title I preschool classrooms enrolling the largest proportion of children from low socioeconomic backgrounds.

Gender differences in play may also affect kindergarten adjustment, with boys who have solitary-passive play behaviors and girls who have solitary-active play behaviors being rated as more poorly adjusted by teachers (Coplan, Gavinski-Molina, Lagace-Seguin, & Wichmann, 2001).

Children with disabilities also find it hard to play well more especially with the able children McConnell, and Chandler (1993).

However, in a review of research on the symbolic play skills of children with language disabilities, Casby (1997) concluded that their actual differences in symbolic play abilities appear to be quite small; they have "a symbolic *performance* deficit more so than a symbolic *competence* deficit". That is, their capabilities for using symbolic ideas in play may be similar to children without language disabilities. Because of their language problems, however, they are less able to make their pretense themes and roles explicit in their play. Similarly, Guralnik and Hammond (1999) found that children with mild disabilities exhibit play transition patterns (i.e., from solitary to parallel to social) that are congruent with those of typical peers, although the transitions may occur slightly later.

In conclusion one of the major gaps noted in the review is that many researchers tended to highlight playing of children in a general manner without paying keen interest on the study in a detailed manner. The intention of the study is to fill this gap

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

3.1 Design

This study used a descriptive cross sectional survey. The study employed both the qualitative and quantitative analysis approaches.

3.2. Environment

This study was conducted in the selected primary schools in Murang'a South district with in Kenya.

3.3. Respondents

This study obtained information from teachers, parents and ministry officials.

3.4. Instruments of data collection

Questionnaires were used to extract information form teachers and Focus group discussions were used to get information from parents. Open ended questionnaires were suitable for investigating deeper the subject matter.

3.5. Data collection procedure

A letter of introduction from the institute of continuing education was sent to facilitate in the data collection exercise. The letter was handed to the head teacher before Questionnaires are distributed to teachers and students. The data collected was sorted and categorized after which it was analyzed. The conclusions and recommendations were made.

3.6. Statistical treatment of data

The frequencies and percentages were used to determine the number of sample respondents used in the research process and the number that participated positively in contribution to the research.

Formula;

$$\text{Percentage (\%)} = \frac{F}{\text{Total number of respondents}} \times 100$$

Where F = number of respondents

Observed

Qualitative analysis; Data from questionnaires were standardized hence requiring categorization. Such data was presented in a descriptive form above which was used to discuss the results of quantitative data.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATIONS

4.1. Profile of the respondents

Table 4.1: profile of the respondents

Respondents	Frequency	Percentage
Sex		
Male	15	60
Female	10	40
Total	25	100
Age		
18-24 yrs	8	32
25-30 yrs	10	40
31 and above	7	28
Total	25	100
Academic level		
Certificate	6	24
Diploma	11	44
Degree	8	32
Total	25	100

(Source: field data 2009)

Thirty 30 questionnaires were distributed to the teachers and 25 were filled and returned back. This therefore represents 83% of the total number of questionnaires that were distributed.

The study covered 65 randomly selected pupils of whom 30 (46%) were male and 35 (54%) were female

The age category of the respondents was divided in three groups that is 18-24 years were 8 which was 32%, 25-30 yrs were 10 (40%) and 31 and above were 7 representing (28%) of the respondents.

The academic level of the respondents was divided in three categories that are certificate, diploma and degree. 6 (24%) of the respondents, 11 (44%) had diploma and 8 (32%) had degrees.

Interviews were carried out with parents and ministry officials both male and female.

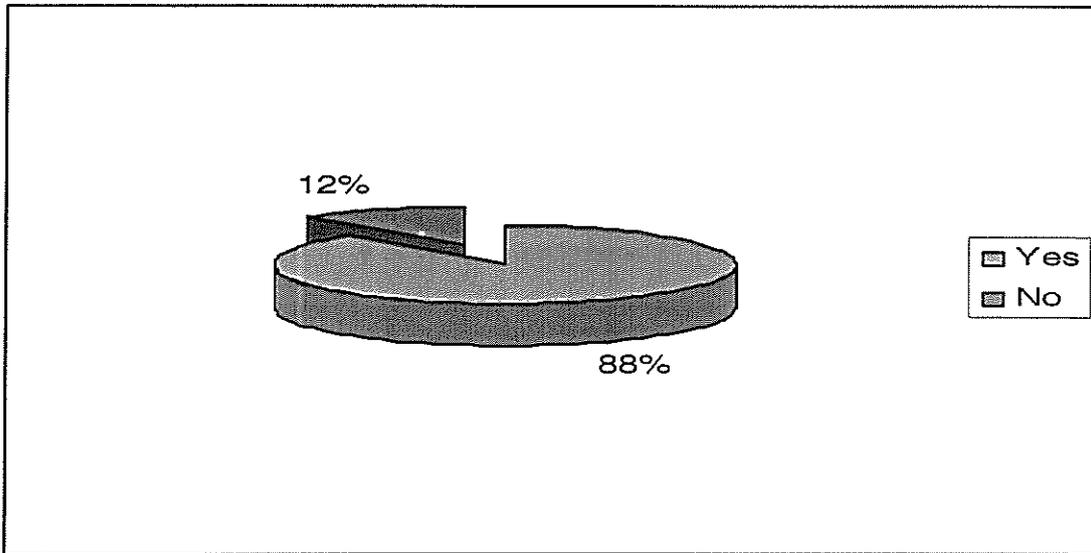
The respondents were asked whether they included playing in the curriculum and this was their response.

Table 4.2. : Playing included in the curriculum

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	22	88
No	3	12
Total	25	100

(Source: Primary data 2009)

Fig. 4.2 Playing included in the curriculum



According to table and chart 4.2, 22 (88%) of the respondents agreed that they include playing in the curriculum while 3 (12%) disagreed. This implies that playing is regarded as important for children.

According to the respondents, children are engaged in many types of playing which include riding bicycles, driving toy cars, swinging, hide and seek, girls playing with baby toys among others. The respondents revealed that playing has helped children enjoy going to school and also live a healthy life.

".....because of playing my children enjoy going to school. They are always looking forward for another day at school....."(interview with a parent)

The respondents were asked whether they thought playing is important to the children and this was their response.

Table 4.3 Playing is important to the children

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	20	80
No	5	20
Total	25	100

(Source: Primary data 2009)

Table 4.3 indicates that 20 (80%) of the respondents agreed that play is important to the children and 5 (20%) disagreed.

In interviews held with the parents they revealed that playing is very important to the children because it enhances their growth.

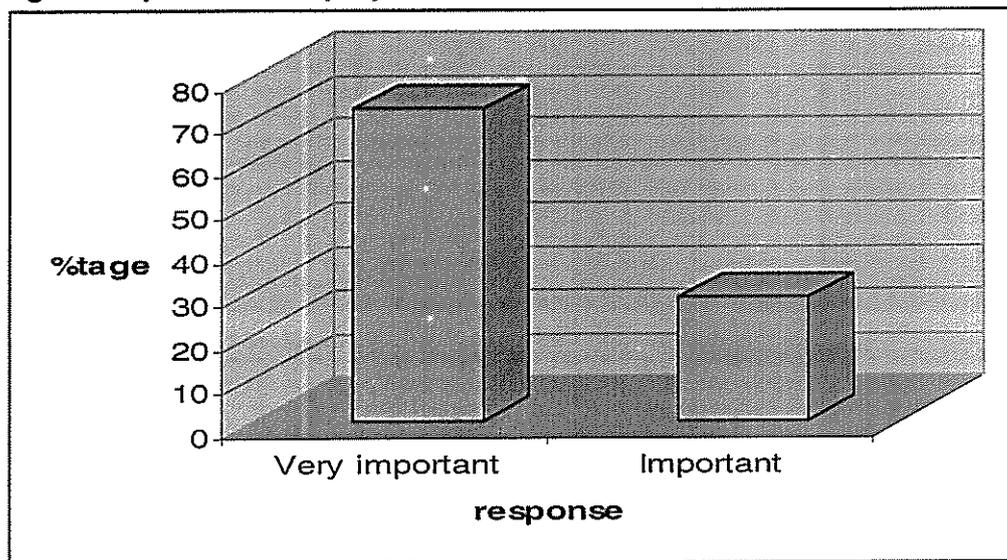
The respondents were asked if yes, how important is it and this was their response.

Table 4.4 Importance of play

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Very important	18	72
Important	7	28
Total	25	100

(Source: Primary data 2009)

Fig 4.3 Importance of play



The table and chart 4.4 show that 18 (72%) of the respondents said that play is very important to the children while 7 (28%) said it's important.

4.3. Importance of playing on the children

The respondents were asked whether playing helps the children perform well academically and this was their response.

Table 4.5 Playing helps children perform well academically

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Agree	15	60
Disagree	5	20
Not sure	5	20
Total	25	100

(Source: Primary data 2009)

According to table 4.5 15(60%) agreed that playing helps the children perform well academically, while 5 (20%) disagreed and 5(20%) were not sure. The study revealed that playing refreshes children's minds and therefore helps them perform well.

According to the parents children who engage in playing especially pretend play are likely to perform well than children who do not play.

“.....my children perform well in school and this partly due to playing because it refreshes their mind.....” (Interview with a parent)

The respondents were asked whether playing helps children understand what they are taught and this was their response.

Table 4.6 Playing helps children understand what they are taught.

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Agree	18	72
Disagree	4	16
Not sure	3	12
Total	25	100

(Source: Primary data 2009)

Fig 4.6 Playing helps children understand what they are taught

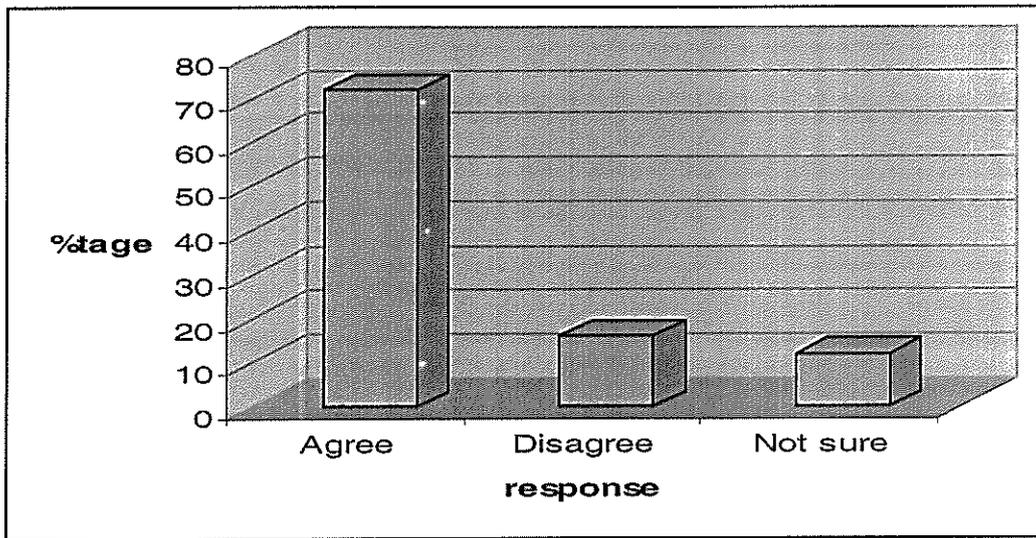


Table and chart 4.6 indicates that 18 (72%) of the respondents agreed that playing helps the children understand what they are taught while 4 (16%) disagreed and 3 (12%) were not sure. This implies that

According to the parents playing can be used to explain what the children are being taught for example learning the alphabetical letters and numbers.

“.....my children always play games at home that involve numbers and letters. These kinds of games help them learn and understand what they are being taught.....”
(Interview with a parent)

The respondents were asked whether playing makes the children like the environment of the school and this was their response.

Table 4.7 Playing makes the children like the environment of the school

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Agree	15	60
Disagree	6	24
Not sure	4	16
Total	25	100

(Source: Primary data 2009)

According to the table 4.7, 15(60%) of the respondents agreed that playing makes the children like the school environment while 6(24%) disagreed and 4(16%) were not sure.

The parents revealed that their children are always eager to go to school because they enjoy playing and at school they have many children to play with.

The respondents were asked whether children who play are likely to perform well in future and this was their response.

Table 4.8 Children who play are likely to perform well in future

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Agree	10	40
Disagree	8	32
Not sure	7	28
Total	25	100

(Source: Primary data 2009)

Table 4.8 shows that 10(40%) of the respondents agreed that children who play are likely to perform well in future while 8(32%) disagreed and 7(28%) were not sure.

According to the parents when children are given a firm foundation they are likely to perform well as they advance in class and according to them playing is one of the ways of building a firm foundation for children.

“.....a firm foundation for children is essential because it helps them in future and the one of the ways to do that is to engage children in playing activities.....”

(Interview with a parent)

The respondents were asked whether through play children learn how to solve problems and this was their response.

Table 4.9 Through playing children learn how to solve problems

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Agree	11	44
Disagree	9	36
Not sure	5	20
Total	25	100

(Source: Primary data 2009)

The table shows that 11(44%) of the respondents agreed that through playing, the children learn how to solve problems while 9(36%) disagreed and 5(20%) were not sure. The parents revealed that since playing involves certain tasks children are able to learn to solve problems which is important in later years.

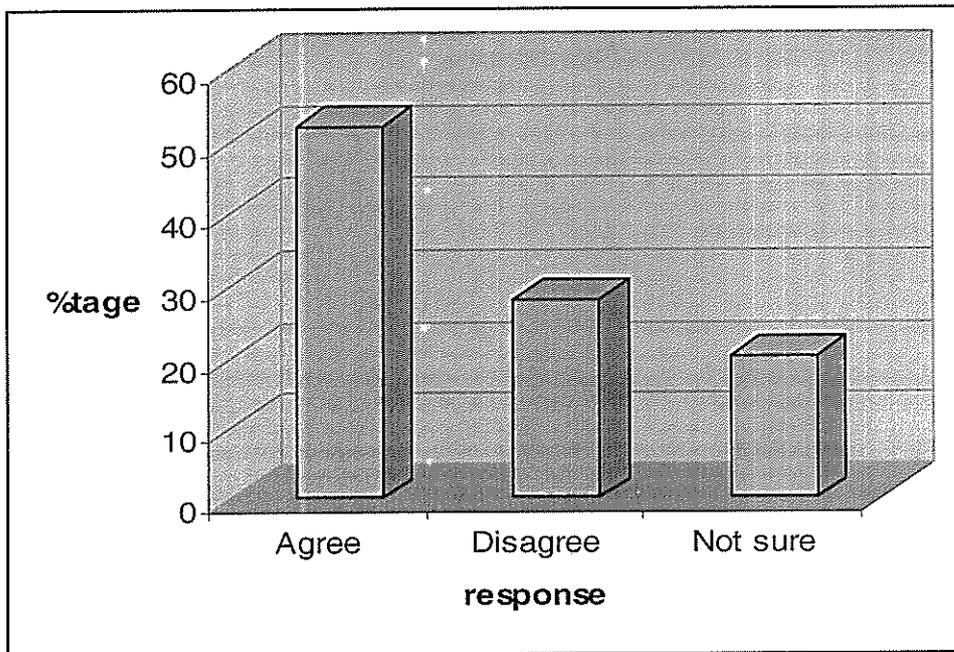
The respondents were asked whether through playing children learn to communicate to others and this was their response.

Table 4.10 Through playing children learn to communicate to other

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Agree	13	52
Disagree	7	28
Not sure	5	20
Total	25	100

(Source: Primary data 2009)

Fig 4.10 Through playing children learn how to communicate with others



According to table and chart 4.10, 13(52%) of the respondents agrees that through playing children learn to communicate to others while 7(28%) disagreed and 5(20%) were not sure.

Through play children communicate with their friends or fellow children and therefore according to the parents they learn to communicate with others.

“.....because playing involves acting and communicating to others, children are able to learn to communicate with others and also develop communication skills.....”

(Interview with a parent)

The respondents were asked whether through playing children learn how to be confident and this was their response.

Table 4.11 Through playing children learn how to be confident

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Agree	15	60
Disagree	6	24
Not sure	4	16
Total	25	100

(Source: Primary data 2009)

Table 4.11 indicates that 15 (60%) of the respondents agreed that through playing, children learn how to be confident while 6 (24%) disagreed and 4 (16%) were not sure.

The parents revealed that by playing with their fellow children and everyone having a role to play as they play builds up their confidence.

The respondents were asked whether playing helps children grow up healthy and this was their response

Table 4.12 Playing helps children grow up healthy

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Agree	18	72
Disagree	4	16
Not sure	3	12
Total	25	100

(Source: Primary data 2009)

According to the table 4.12, 18(72%) of the respondents agreed that playing helps children grow up healthy while 4(16%) disagreed and 3(12%) were not sure.

According to the parents when children play they are exercising and therefore it helps them grow up healthy.

The respondents were asked how have the children who have had a chance to play been performing in class and this was their response

Table 4.13 How children who have had a chance to play perform in class

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Excellent	12	48
Good	8	32
Fair	3	12
Bad	2	8
Total	25	100

(Source: Primary data 2009)

Table 4.13 shows that 12(48%) of the respondents said that children who have had a chance to play perform excellent in class, 8(32%) said they perform well while 3(12%) said they fair and 2(8%) said they perform badly.

This implies that children who play perform well in class. The teachers revealed that children's play is important to them because it helps them gain the trust of the children and therefore relate well with them. According to them this helps them teach effectively. As the children play they are supervised by the teachers and sometimes the teachers play with them.

They revealed that when a school involves its children in playing activities the children relax and therefore perform well in academics and this increases enrollment of a school.

The respondents were asked whether boys and girls play together and this was their response.

Table 4.14 Boys and girls play together

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	20	80
No	5	20
Total	25	100

(Source: Primary data 2009)

Fig 4.14 Boys and girls play together

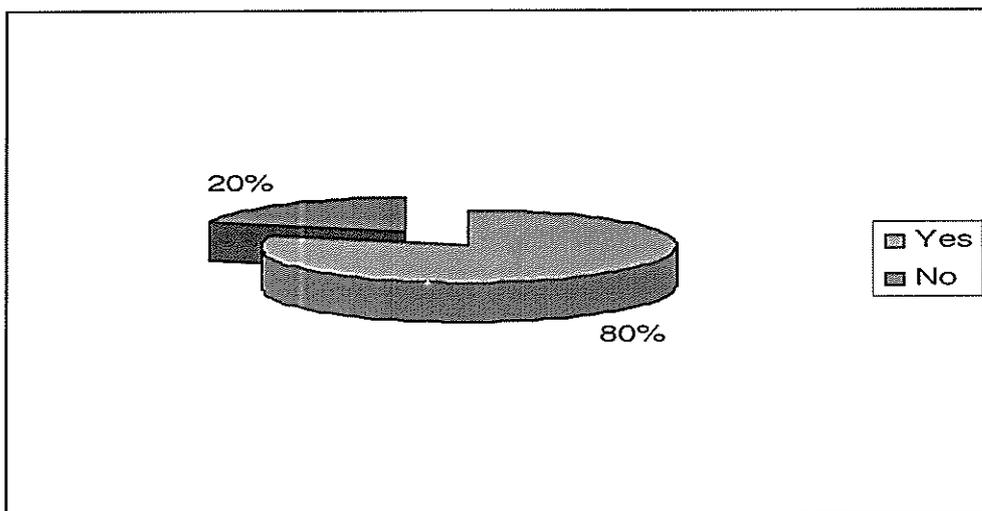


Table and chart 4.14 shows that 20(80%) of the respondents agrees that boys and girls play together while 5(20%) disagreed. This shows that children play together regardless of the sex.

The respondents were asked whether the school have enough playing materials for the children and this was their response

Table 4.15 The school has enough playing materials

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	13	52
No	12	48
Total	25	100

(Source: Primary data 2009)

Table 4.15 indicates that 13(52%) of the respondents agreed that the school has enough playing materials for the children while 12(48%) of the respondents disagreed. The parents revealed that as they consider taking their children they make sure they take them to schools with enough playing materials.

The teachers revealed that in cases where they do not have appropriate playing materials they make natural ones for example a ball from fiber or a doll from clothes. According to the teachers some children like them so much because they also contribute to making them.

The teachers revealed that children's playing is hindered by lack of enough playing materials and lack of parental involvement in their children's activities including playing.

CHAPTER FIVE

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Conclusion

Respondents were asked to answer questions on the relationship between playing and academic achievement of children. 60% of the respondents said that playing was important to children's academics and 48% also said that children who have had a chance to play excel in academics. This is supported by Vukelich (1994) that kindergarten children's ability to read print embedded in the environment is increased through play.

Respondents also had to answer questions regarding the relationship between playing and problem solving. The majority of them (44%) agreed that children who play learn how to solve problems in later years. According to Fisher (1992) there is a body of evidence showing the effectiveness of play, especially socio dramatic play, in promoting problem-solving abilities.

Respondents were asked the relationship between playing and social and linguistic competence. 52% of the respondents agreed that through play children learn to communicate with others. According to Rubin and Coplan (1998) children who exhibited nonsocial or "withdrawn" play behaviors during preschool; they found that early social withdrawal predicts peer rejection, social anxiety, loneliness, depression, and negative self-esteem in later childhood and adolescence, as well as having negative implications for academic success.

The respondents were asked the relationship between playing and confidence building. 60% of the respondents agreed that through playing, children learn how to be confident. According to Pellegrini AD, Boyd B. (1993) By interacting with others children are learning to express themselves with many people. For example in pretend play they all take up roles and pretend to be the other person.

Lastly the respondents were asked to state some of the hindrances to children's playing. According to the respondents playing is hindered by lack of enough playing materials which is brought about by poverty and lack of parent's involvement in children's playing activities. According Hallowell EM. (2002)Poverty is one of the hindrances to children's playing. In today's high demanding world parents find themselves working and therefore do not have the time to look after their children leave alone play with them.

5.2 Recommendations

Looking at the findings of the study, the following recommendations were made;

Government should make sure early childhood centers have enough and strong playing materials before they are licensed.

The community and parents should be sensitized about the importance of playing so that they also participate in children's playing activities.

Schools should make sure they fulfill what is in the curriculum by involving children in playing activities.

5.3 Areas for further studies

The researcher appeals to other researchers to go deep into the study of the effects of playing on children. Few researchers have ventured on the topic.

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APPENDIXA: QUESTIONNAIRE FOR TEACHERS

Dear respondent

I am a student of Kampala International University carrying out an academic research on the topic “playing and academic performance on early childhood education in Olkalou Division, Murang’a South district in Kenya” as a case study. You have been randomly selected to participate in the study and are therefore kindly requested to provide an appropriate answer by either ticking the best option or give explanation where applicable. The answers provided will only be used for academic purposes and will be treated with utmost confidentiality.

NB: do not write your name anywhere on this paper.

A) Personal information

GENDER

Male Female

AGE

14-18 19-25

Academic level

Certificate

Diploma

Degree

1. Do you include playing in the curriculum?

Yes []

No []

2. If yes what types of games do the children play?

Please name them.

.....

3. How have these games been important to the children?

.....

4. Do you think playing is important to the children?

Yes []

No []

5. If yes how important is it

Very important []

Important []

Below are statements about the importance of playing on children please tick those that most suit you.

6. Playing helps children perform well academically

Agree []

Disagree []

Not sure []

7. Playing helps children understand what they are being taught

Agree []

Disagree []

Not sure []

8. Playing makes children like the environment of the school,

Agree []

Disagree []

Not sure []

9. Children who play are likely to perform well in the future.

Agree []

Disagree []

Not sure []

10. Through playing children learn how to solve problems

Agree []

Disagree []

Not sure []

11. Children who play do not find difficulties in problem solving.

Agree []

Disagree []

Not sure []

12. Through playing children learn how to communicate to others

Agree []

Disagree []

Not sure []

13. Children who play are confident

Agree []

Disagree []

Not sure []

13. Through playing children learn how to be confident

Agree []

Disagree []

Not sure []

13. Playing helps children grow up healthy.

Agree []

Disagree []

Not sure []

14. How has playing with the children helped you as a teacher?

.....

.

15. How has playing with the children been of benefit to the school

.....

.....

16. How have children who have had a chance to play been performing in class as they grow up?

Excellent []

Good []

Fair []

Bad []

17. What are the hindrances to children's playing?

.....

18. Who supervises the children as the play?

.....

19. Do the boys and girls play together?

Yes []

No []

20. Does the school have enough playing materials for the children?

Yes []

No []

21. If no what do you do for the children

.....

22. If yes what kind of materials do you have

.....

23. How do the materials help the children?

.....