# The Role of Play in Child Development

## Learning Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The student should be able to</th>
<th>Assessment Criteria</th>
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</table>
| **1** Understand the role of play in child development, including the emotional, social and cognitive development of the child | **1.1** Describe the key elements of cognitive development theories to reflect play in childhood to include:  
- Piaget  
- Vygotsky  
- Bruner  

**1.2** Explain the role of play in child development in relation to their:  
- social development  
- emotional development  
- cognitive development  

**1.3** Evaluate the influence of cognitive development theories on the role of play in child learning and behaviour |
| **2** Understand the importance of play for child development | **2.1** Discuss the relationship between imagination and creativity in play  

**2.2** Examine the therapeutic value of play  

**2.3** Evaluate the role of the adult in effective play  

**2.4** Explain areas of play that support development of motor skills |

## Assessment Methodology

A 2000 – 2500 word essay or case study.

## Grading of this unit

The following grade descriptors will be applied to the assessment of this unit:

1. Understanding of the subject  
2. Application of Knowledge  
5. Communication and Presentation  
7. Quality

Please refer to the QAA Grade Descriptors for detail of the components of each descriptor
## Indicative Content

**Learners will be provided with opportunities to learn about:**

- Assessing the role of education on the emotional, social and cognitive development of the child
- Describing and evaluating cognitive development theories (e.g. Piaget, Vygotsky, Bruner) and their implications for learning and behaviour
- Discussing the relationship between imagination and creativity in play
- Discussing the therapeutic value of play
- Evaluating the role of the adult in effective play
- Explaining areas of play that support development of motor skills

**Validation end date: 31 August 2019**