Research in the making: methodological artefacts by children and researcher

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In the Making
An artefact as ‘an object that is tied to a context and an identity. It carries a story and has a past.’

Methodological artefacts

Researcher

Research Participants
Starting points

- ‘Listening to young children’ study funded by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation (1999-2000)
- ‘Spaces to Play’ (2003-2004) with Learning through Landscapes
Living Spaces study

Planning, designing and developing indoor and outdoor provision with young children
2004-2007

Bernard van Leer Foundation

Mosaic approach

- Observation
- Child Interviews
- Tours
- Map making
- Practitioners’ interviews
- Photo books
- Parents’ interviews
- Slide shows
- Model making
- Review
- .............
Knowledge Construction
Knowledge construction

- Children as meaning-makers in learning
  Meaning-making (Wells, 1986)
- Children’s active role in knowledge construction (Vygotsky, 1978; Rogoff, 2003)
- Adults as co-learners in a community of learners (Rogoff et al., 2001).
Knowledge construction or production not …..knowledge extraction

‘Participatory methods are those that facilitate the process of knowledge production as opposed to knowledge ‘gathering’, as is the case with methods such as individual interviews, surveys and checklists.’

(Veale, 2005: 254)
'Local knowledge'

• Participatory Rural Appraisal
  Raising the status of both the methods of communicating and local knowledge held by members of a community

• Sociology of Childhood
  Pia Christensen (2002: 171) discusses the importance of tuning into children’s ‘cultures of communication’ in order to reveal their local knowledge.
Artefact: children’s map making
Map making
Mediating artefacts
Artefact: image of radiator cover
An artefact as ‘an object that is tied to a context and an identity. It carries a story and has a past.’

Methodological artefacts

Researcher

Research participants
Holding research
Infants toddler visit no. 1: 2 March preschool.

Ceiling.

Sky light, well in ceiling.

Tubing looped over the ceiling.

Artelier.

Glue - seed window to floor level.

So 2 mould can see.
Stitching research
‘Old school?’
In the Making
Selected Publications


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