



Triggering Motivation through Play and Curiosity

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

In this Special Issue, we aim to investigate the ways in which play and curiosity have a role in education. Thus far, in educational research, the focus has often been on motivating students to perform predefined school tasks that are not intrinsically motivating per se. Play is intrinsically motivated: when children get the opportunity, they will play. Furthermore, a playing child is interested to see “what happens if...” and is not occupied with reaching an extrinsic goal. Play is an essential part of the social, emotional, creative, and cognitive well-being of children¹. The right to play is part of the UN convention on the rights of children.

¹ E.g. Barros, R.M., Silver, E.J., Stein, R.E.K. (2009). School Recess and Group Classroom Behavior. *Pediatrics* 123 (2), 431–436. 10.1542/peds.2007-2825

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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