



### UNIT III PLAY

#### NOTES

##### Play

Play is an integral part in the life of a child. It is an activity in which a child is engaged to do whatever he wants. Play is an indispensable activity in which the child expresses his freedom of action. Any activity engaged in for the enjoyment it gives without consideration of the time and end itself is a play. It is the young child's chief mode of interactions and development.

##### Needs of play

Play is an important medium for the moral education of the child. He may learn to be fair, honest, truthful, self-controlled, a good loser and a pleasant winner. The child is given a chance to develop physical, mental, social and moral well-being through play. It serves as an outlet of many emotions and to express the child's natural instincts. The child becomes aware of the shapes, sizes, colours, texture, numbers and qualities of the objects as well as their significance while playing with the toys.

##### Types of play

Plays can be classified into two groups:

- Active play and
- Passive play

##### 1. Active play

In active play, children get satisfaction from what they do rather than from what someone else does.

Active play may consist of exploratory, constructive, dramatic, free spontaneous, family games, neighbourhood games etc.



## 2. Passive Play

In passive play, children play a passive role in amusements. The enjoyment comes from watching or listening to others.

Passive plays consist of watching others, looking at comics, listening to music, watching television, etc.

### Play Materials of children of 2-6 years of age

The right play equipment help children to meet their interests, abilities and needs while playing. It also stimulates an interest in play of all types. If parents think about each child's needs, abilities and interests, they will be able to make a wise choice of play equipment for their children.

There are different lists of play materials of different age groups of 2 – 3 years, 3 – 4 years, 4 – 5 years, 5 – 6 years.

### Characteristics of children's play

The characteristics of children's play to be enumerated as follows:

- Play follows a pattern of development.
- Play is influenced by traditions.
- Childhood play changes from informal to formal.
- Play activities decrease with age.
- Time spent in play decrease with age.
- Time spent specific activities increase with age.
- Play is less physically active as the child grows older.
- The numbers of playmates decrease with age.

