DIGITAL CHILDHOODS PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

Playing and Learning

EXPERT GROUP PROGRAMME

Open Day: Thursday 12th May
Expert Forum: Friday 13th May
Macrobert, Stirling

- Have technological toys and games changed the way children play?
- Can new technologies support or speed up children’s learning in different or more effective ways?
- What do children’s emerging technological skills mean for learning and teaching in the early years?

Early years practitioners, policy makers and parents of pre-school children are invited to join university researchers and media industry specialists to discuss these questions and learn about current initiatives affecting young children growing up in a digital world.

Our Open Day (0930-1645) will feature opportunities to learn about current developments from organisations such as CBeebies, Creative Scotland, Learning & Teaching Scotland and VTech, and researchers Dr Christine Stephen (University of Stirling) on rethinking playing and learning, and from Lindsay Grant (University of Bristol), Andrew Joyce-Gibbons and James McNaughton (Durham University) and Dr Andrew Manches (London Knowledge Lab) on what children’s developing technological skills mean for their learning, with opportunities to discuss and share ideas throughout the day.

The Expert Forum on 13 May (0915-1300) will bring together a diverse group of academics and professionals with expertise in play and learning in the early years, and digital toys, games and media. It will provide opportunities to discuss in detail the key issues set out above and to identify further challenges for the field, establishing what we know and identifying future research and development agendas.

To register for this event please go to:

http://www.strath.ac.uk/humanities/research/digitalchildhoods/digitalchildhoodsparenting/
Venue:

Macrobert, University of Stirling, Stirling, FK9 4LA

For more information about travelling to the University of Stirling campus go to: http://www.stir.ac.uk/about/getting-here
Open Day: Morning Programme (12 May)

0900   REGISTRATION & COFFEE/ TEA

0930   Welcome

0945   Rethinking playing and learning in the early years
       Dr Christine Stephen, University of Stirling

1015   Playing and learning: presentations and demonstrations (1)*

       CBeebies trials
       Ayesha Chowdhury, CBeebies Producer

       Learning through games
       Derek Robertson, Learning & Teaching Scotland

       New digital technologies for children
       VTech

1045   COFFEE/ TEA

1100   Playing and learning: presentations and demonstrations (2)*

       CBeebies trials
       Ayesha Chowdhury, CBeebies Producer

       Learning through games
       Derek Robertson, Learning & Teaching Scotland

       Electronic Learning Games
       VTech

1130   Discussion 1

1215   LUNCH

* Presentation and demonstration sessions are repeated so that participants can hear about

Discussion of presentations and demonstrations will take place in the Filmhouse after these
sessions.
Open Day: Afternoon Programme (12 May)

1300  Children’s emerging technological competences: implications for learning
      Lindsay Grant, University of Bristol

1330  Using children’s TV to develop literacy skills
      Mairi Flood, Creative Scotland

1400  Designing technologies to build on children’s pre-school understanding and experiences
      Andrew Manches, London Knowledge Lab

1430  Discussion 2

1500  COFFEE/ TEA

1515  SynergyNet and the development of a multi-touch classroom for primary children
      Andrew Joyce-Gibbons and James McNaughton, Durham University

1545  TBC

1615  Discussion 3

1645  CLOSE
**Expert Forum (13 May)**

0915 Technology, expertise and learning  
*Professor Steve Higgins, Durham University*

0945 Introductions:  
*Questions arising from our own expertise and practice*

1030 Discussion 1: *What do we know?*  
- Have technological toys and games changed the way children play?  
- Can new technologies support or speed up children’s learning in different or more effective ways?  
- What do children’s emerging technological skills mean for learning and teaching in the early years?

1115 COFFEE/ TEA

1130 Discussion 2: *What happens next?*  
- What is the R&D Agenda for the next decade?  
- What short and medium term goals should we set?  
- What are the first steps in achieving these?

1230 Conclusions

1300 LUNCH

1400 CLOSE