



FRONT PORCH SERIES BROADCAST CALLS

The Importance of Peer Interaction and Social Pretend Play

Carollee Howes
University of California at Los Angeles



Monday, February 25, 2013 1:00 – 1:45 p.m. EST (10:00 – 10:45 a.m. PST)

Dr. Howes will describe the development of social pretend play in toddler and preschool age children. Dr. Howes will provide examples of the beginning social play of infants and toddlers and discuss how these early play forms transform into more developed social pretend. She will discuss theories of how both home and school cultural communities influence the development of social pretend play and how Early Head Start Programs as well as Head Start Programs can encourage social play.

Join us for this engaging Broadcast Call. Space is limited.

Reserve your Webinar seat now at: <https://www4.gotomeeting.com/register/189651310>



Dr. Carollee Howes is a professor of Psychological Studies in Education at the University of California at Los Angeles. She is also Director of the Center for Improving Child Care Quality at UCLA. Her research interests are in the area of very young children's development of interpersonal

relationships. Howes studies peer interactions, particularly friendships and social pretend play in toddler and preschool age children. Much of her current work includes describing development within classrooms and families against the background of race, ethnicity, and home language. Howes has published in numerous journals including *Child Development*, *Developmental Psychology*, *Zero to Three*, *Social Development*, and *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*.

Top 5 Questions:

1. I teach two year olds, how do I know if children are playing or in conflict?
2. How can I set up the classroom to encourage social pretend play?
3. I am not sure that I should encourage peer interaction when my children are only babies; Shouldn't we focus on teacher-child relationships?
4. What happens when the children in my group all speak different languages at home, how can they play together?
5. Should I, as a teacher, play pretend with the children? Will that encourage peer social pretend?



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