

# Dramatic Play and Language

Why is dramatic play so important?

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incedramatic play. Talking with children about their play has been associated with later reading and writing development. Furthermore, play is a set of behaviors that are:

- ‡ Freely chosen
- ‡

## How can play be encouraged and supported in the classroom?

Props can give dramatic play great influence on language development. Phone props encourage children to use specific words and intonations to get their point across. Studies have shown that the use of phone props by children resulted in an overall increase in participation, longer sentences and a more mature use of language. Writing tools and paper encourage children to incorporate writing into their play. Books and magazines can promote reading during dramatic play.

Other ways to raise the student's interest in dramatic play include:

- x Expand the repertoire of play themes and roles by exposing children to new and varied experiences. This can be done through the use of field trips, guest speakers,