

**This issue is a special issue dedicated entirely to...books.**

Here at ELP, we think that you can never have enough books at home and in your setting's library. Yet, finding the right one that fits for example an emerging pedagogical interest (like a focus on arts or biculturalism) can be quite a challenge.

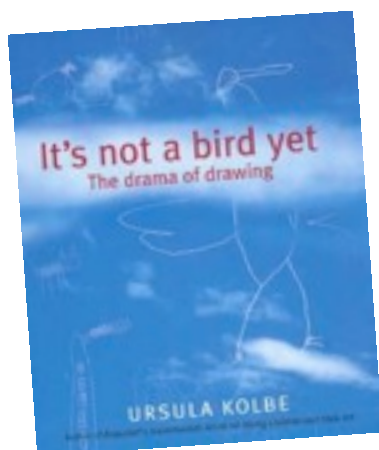
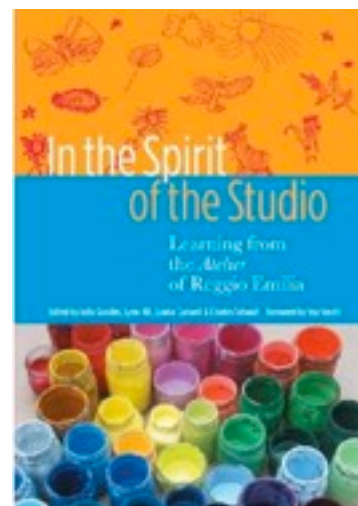
The books below are a small collection of books we highly recommend reading (for more books and articles go to the resource section of our [website](http://fishpond.co.nz)).

To purchase these books simply go to our website's resource section and click on the book's image. You will then be forwarded to [fishpond.co.nz](http://fishpond.co.nz).

## ARTS

**Lella Gandini, Lynn T. Hill, Louise Boyd Cadwell & Charles Schwall**  
**- In The Spirit of the Studio: Learning from the Atelier of Reggio Emilia**

This book is about children having ownership, freedom to explore, communicate and open ended possibilities between children and staff and how teaching and learning was transformed following the experiences of the pre-schools of Reggio Emilia in Italy. The invitation is for us to pretend to be visitors in our own classrooms in order to see new possibilities and find creative solutions. The challenge is for us to make our own meaning with the children in our culture.

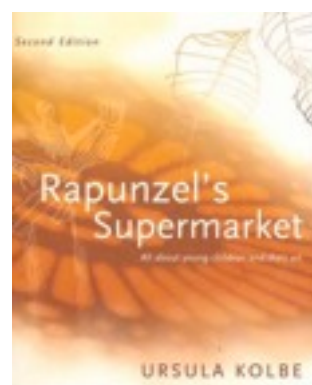


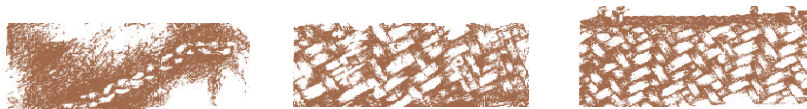
**Ursula Kolbe - It's not a Bird Yet: The Drama of Drawing**

This book focuses completely on drawing. It has four parts: 'Tuning into children's drawing', 'Investigating with children', 'Enchanting the eye, expanding horizons' and 'Other matters'. For teachers who think they are not 'artists' or who have not yet explored in detail the complexities of drawing this is a great book. Ursula writes beautifully and is reflective and insightful. As well as having great photos and illustrations, this is a lovely book to read. It will inspire any teacher to pursue creative pathways with children.

**Ursula Kolbe - Rapunzel's Supermarket**

A book filled with practical and inspiring suggestions for enriching children's art experiences. From tools to use, to examples of ways to engage and have conversations with children; this is a comprehensive resource that should be in every centre.

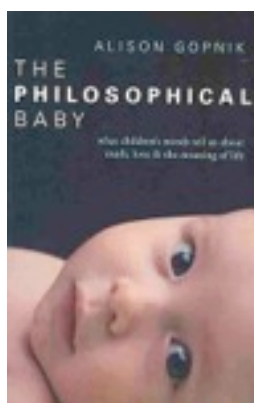




## Education and Care of Children under 2 Years

### Alison Gopnik, Andrew Meltzoff & Patricia Kuhl - How Babies Think: The Science of Childhood

A very interesting read for those passionate about babies and toddlers. The authors discuss their research in a readable and engaging manner. They demonstrate through research the way babies use sophisticated reason to understand their world. This book is crucial to Infant and Toddler pedagogy particularly in the area of early literacy and the development of language. This book contributes strongly to her later book "The Philosophical Baby".



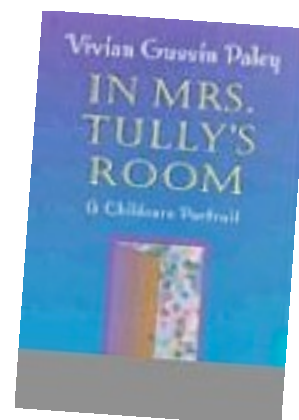
### Alison Gopnik - The Philosophical Baby: What Children's Minds Tell Us about Truth, Love and the Meaning of Life

In this book, Alison Gopnik, professor of psychology at the University of California at Berkeley, mother, and philosopher, shares with us the story of how we become the grown-ups we are.

This book offers us - parents, grandparents, early childhood teachers, and infant/child specialists - a deeper understanding and appreciation of our role in shaping the lives of children and our future as human beings. She says that, "[...]love itself depends on knowledge and imagination. For babies, who are so utterly helpless and dependent, no theory is as important as the theory of love." (p. 247)

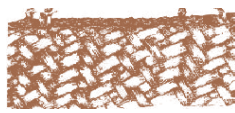
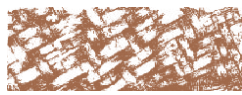
### Vivian Gussin Paley - In Mrs. Tully's Room: A Childcare Portrait

Paley expertly weaves Mrs. Tully's intuitive wisdom throughout the classroom stories into this wonderful book. The sensitivity of the relationships and the respect that Mrs. Tully has for each child makes visible the pedagogical skill and physiological insight that intuitive teachers bring to their work. This beautiful story is another of Gussin Paley's inspirational books.

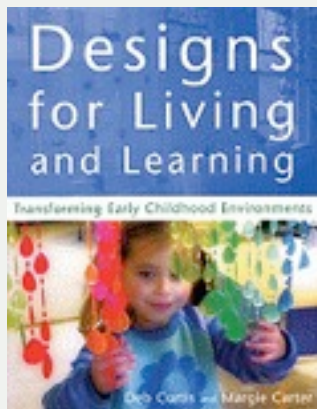


### Anita Hughes - Developing Play for the Under 3s: A Treasure Basket and Heuristic Play

This is a very readable book that explains the philosophy of heuristic play and gives practical examples of how the philosophy can be implemented. The book focuses on open ended, natural and household resources, giving low cost practical ways of adding complexity to infant and toddler environments.



## Environments



### Deb Curtis & Margie Carter - Designs for Living and Learning

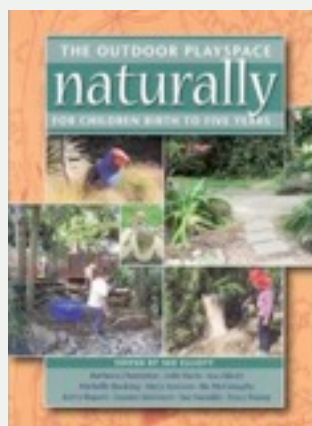
This 'must have' book offers many fantastic and inspiring ideas and reasons for creating great spaces for living and learning in early childhood education settings. This book contains hundreds of coloured photographs and possibilities for team discussion, review and transformation of the setting environment.



### Sue Crook & Betty Farmer - Just Imagine. Creative Play Experiences for Children Under Six

The creative play experience is vital for the stimulation of children's imagination. It offers opportunities for children to learn, express themselves and interact with others. Sue Crook and Betty Farmer offer insights into developing children's environmental awareness as well as ideas for settings and suggestions for props.

This book is filled with ideas for making the most of play spaces, using resources that are inexpensive, recycled or probably lying around in storerooms. The emphasis is on creating natural and engaging spaces using open ended resources and moving away from plastic toys.



### Sue Elliot - The Outdoor Playspace Naturally - for Children Birth to Five Years

For anyone wanting to build or re-design an outdoor play space, this book is a must. Many aspects of what is important for young children when playing outdoors are investigated. Coloured photos display ideas for inclusion, access and participation and help to inspire ideas to create exciting and diverse play spaces. Ideas for art and design are also included.

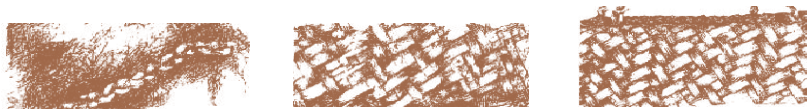


### Jim Greenman - Caring Spaces, Learning Places that Work

In this book, Jim Greenman inspires by sharing the stories, insights and poetry of many people as he kindly challenges and supports us in re-thinking the lives of children and teachers in our early childhood settings. He provides many good ideas and tools for changing and improving early childhood education environments in early childhood settings.

The discussion on *institutionalized childhoods* (p.64) is particularly interesting; it concludes with a list of reflective questions that would be a very useful review tool to work through as a team of teachers.



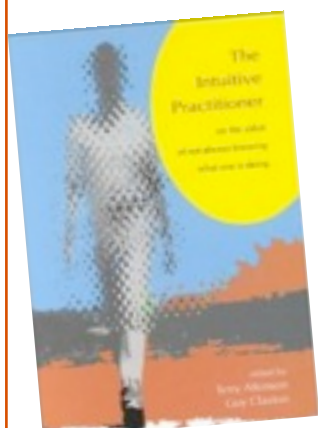
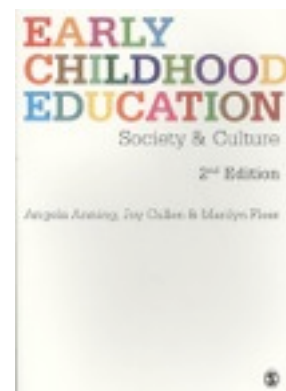


## Learning and Teaching

### Angela Anning, Joy Cullen & Marilyn Fleet - Early Childhood Education. Society & Culture

This book presents social and cultural perspectives on current theories of learning in early childhood education within the contexts of the UK, Australia and New Zealand.

It sets out research-based evidence, linking theory and practice in early childhood settings. There are four themes throughout the book: the dynamics of learning and teaching, the nature of knowledge, assessment, evaluation and quality. A good book for students and teachers wanting to read current research perspectives.

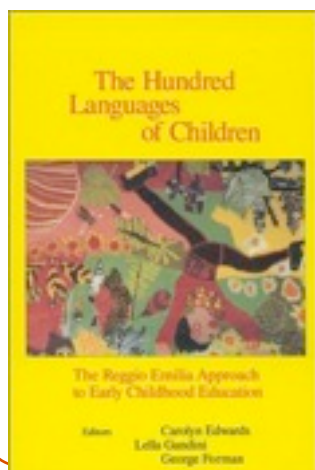
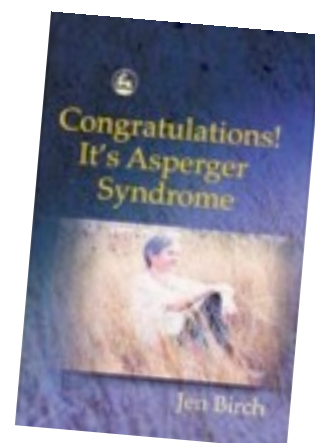


### Terry Atkinson & Guy Claxton - The Intuitive Practitioner: On the Value of Not Always Knowing What One is Doing

This book explores the dynamic relationship between reason and intuition in the context of professional practice and provides insight into valuing the state of mind about 'just knowing' and trusting one's 'gut' instinct.

### Jen Birch - Congratulations! It's Asperger Syndrome

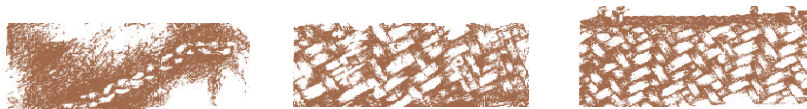
This book is Jen's own inspiring and powerful story of coming to terms with a diagnosis of Asperger Syndrome at the age of 43. Jen's story inspires and informs us of the potential of living life to its fullest once this condition is understood. I think it is particularly helpful to teachers and families in supporting them with a greater understanding of this syndrome.



### Carolyn Edwards, Lella Gandini & George Forman - The Hundred Languages of Children

This book continues to inform and inspire teachers throughout the decades. It is a comprehensive introduction to all aspects of the Reggio Emilia teaching philosophy.

A book that 'needs' to be owned and one you will return to many times as it informs your practice and supports your understanding of significant principles that underpin the meaningful practice developed in the Reggio Emilia schools of Northern Italy.



## Learning and Teaching

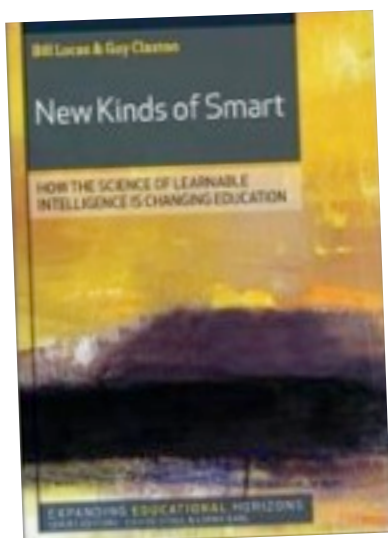
### Guy Claxton - Building Learning Power

This book is the first one we often reach for when we want to write about learning power. It is a brilliant resource where Guy talks about what he describes as the 4 R's of Learning Power: resilience, resourcefulness, reflectiveness and reciprocity (latterly relating). Guy describes ways we can support children to become better learners and support us to become better teachers. The language he uses in the book have been helpful for us when writing Learning Stories as well as helping us to reflect on the language we use every day when working with children.



### Bill Lucas & Guy Claxton - New Kinds of Smart

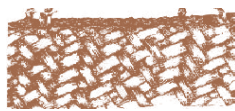
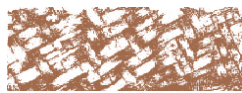
"New Kinds of Smart" focusses on intelligence as expandable and weaves quotes throughout the book in an easy to read style. It gives practical ideas to use in the classroom which can be easily adapted for an early childhood setting. Guy and Bill talk about stretching your learning muscle (your brain) and believe that the more you use your brain, like any other muscle in your body, the more you can use it. Along with "Building Learning Power", this is a great resource for teachers and parents.



### Joyce Nuttal - Weaving Te Whāriki: Aotearoa New Zealand's Early Childhood Curriculum

This book gives some historical background to the development of Te Whāriki, as well as commentary on the implications for Early Childhood of having a bicultural holistic curriculum. Three main themes weave through the chapters: the importance of culture, the role socio-cultural constructivist theories of learning can play in understanding Te Whāriki and the practical difficulties in implementing a non-prescriptive curriculum. This is a very useful book for teachers wanting to deepen their understanding of Te Whāriki.





## Literacy

### Mem Fox - Reading Magic: How Your Child Can Learn to Read Before School - and Other Read-aloud Miracles

This book explores the notion of reading aloud to children and the benefits of this for children. Mem Fox gives the reader tips for reading aloud and how to get the most value and joy out of reading aloud to children. This book is a great read for parents and educators alike and is written with humour and enthusiasm.



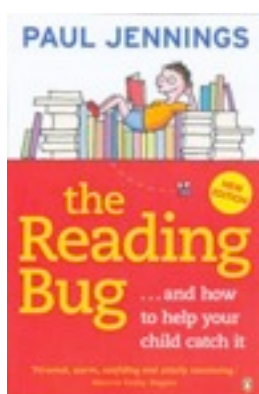
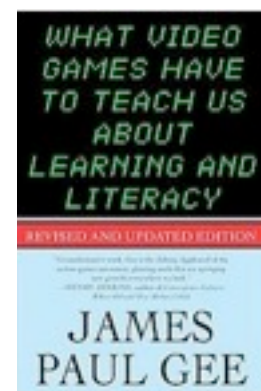
### Mem Fox - Reading Magic: Why Reading Aloud to Our Children Will Change Their Lives Forever

Mem Fox reminds us that reading aloud to babies and young children is a vehicle for building loving care relationships and supporting children's disposition to learn thus growing in them a love of books, language and reading. Mem provides us with hints and tips for reading aloud to children and 10 Read Aloud Commandments.

We recommend this very useful book to parents and early childhood teachers.

### James Paul Gee - What Video Games Have to Teach Us About Learning and Literacy

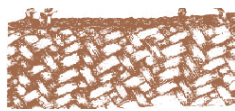
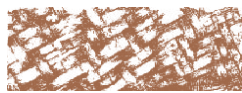
This is an oldie but a goodie. The title is in itself challenging as often we do not see video games (computer games, using ICT) as learning. James has come up with 36 Learning Principles which clearly show the learning happening for children when they engage with computer games. Learning such as 'persistence' as some games are very hard and still children keep going back to them. It is of particular relevance to 'Baby Boomers' who have not grown up in a digital age and have not experienced gaming to any degree. It would be a good resource also in your Parent Library for parents who are worried about the amount of time children spend on the computer.



### Paul Jennings - The Reading Bug...And How You Can Help Your Child Catch It

In this book Paul Jennings audience is primarily parents so this would be a great book to have in your Parent Library, it is also a good book for Early Childhood Practitioners. Jennings has clear strategies for encouraging dispositional readers. As the back of the book says, "In a clear and humorous style he explains how you can open the world through a love of books. He has cut through the jargon and the controversies to reveal the simple truths which will enable every parent to infect their child with the reading bug."





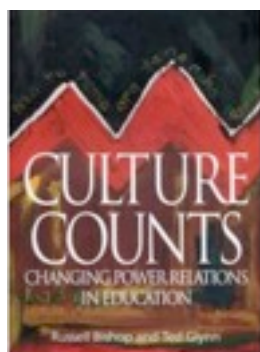
**Laurie Makin, Criss Jones Diaz, Claire McLachlan - Literacies in Childhood. Changing Views, Challenging Practice. 2nd Edition**

This book is divided into different areas of literacy and include 'Frameworks for thinking about literacy', 'Pathways to literacy' and 'Multiliteracies and diversity'. We have found this to be a very valuable resource in supporting teachers and understanding children in their literacy journeys, and as the back cover suggests this book "supports the development of competent and confident Early Childhood and Primary Educators"

At the end of each chapter there are a series of reflective questions which are really useful as these could be used as prompts for discussion with teams.



## Social Competence



**Russell Bishop and Ted Glynn - Culture Counts. Changing Power Relations in Education**

This is essential reading for teachers when reflecting on bi-cultural practice as well as the implications of the Treaty of Waitangi in everyday practice. The book is set out in five chapters, looking at the key areas of power relations from a historical perspective through to unequal power relations in the classroom to new approaches.

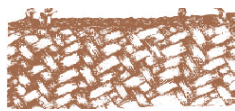
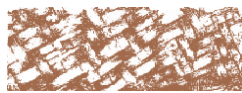
**Barbara Coloroso - Kids are Worth it!**

A must read. Even though this is fundamentally a book about parenting, the principles of treating everyone with dignity and respect means this book is also for teachers. Teaching children how to think, not what to think is the message throughout this book. The examples and narratives are useful and can help teachers to build a repertoire of responses in helping children in their social literacy learning.



**Vivian Gussin Paley - You Can't Say You Can't Play**

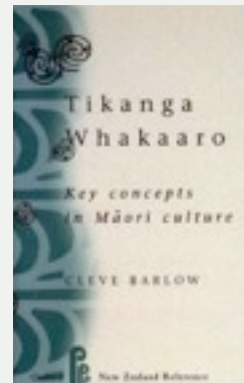
This book tells the story of how a classroom works through a new rule; 'you can't say you can't play'. The real issues of exclusion, loneliness, and rejection are confronted and explored, in a story that is inspiring and thought provoking. Vivian Gussin Paley's books are always readable and at least one should be in every teacher's library.



## Māori

### Cleve Barlow - Tikanga Whakaaro: Key Concepts in Māori Culture

This book provides explanations in English and Māori of seventy terms which are important in Māori culture. Each term is clearly defined, and its significance explained with reference to tradition, custom, myth and ritual, as well as present day understanding. - A good reference book to have on any shelf and a starting point for furthering bicultural learning journeys.



### Ministry of Education - Te Whatu Pōkeka

The principal focus of Te Whatu Pōkeka is the assessment of Māori children in a Māori early childhood setting. Broad Māori concepts and perspectives are discussed to provide an understanding of the insights and ideas that inform the philosophy of Te Whatu Pōkeka, as a curriculum that is determined and shaped by the child. One of the underlying assumptions is that assessment based on kaupapa Māori is a powerful vehicle for the normalisation of success for Māori children and whānau. This document is of utmost importance to teachers in all early childhood settings as they seek to strengthen children in their identity, language and culture.



### Wharehuia Hemara - Māori Pedagogies

This book investigates traditional and contemporary Māori pedagogies through reviewing a wide range of records and publications. It explores traditional teaching, learning and child-rearing practices and how they apply within the European context. It also discusses current issues in New Zealand's education sector.

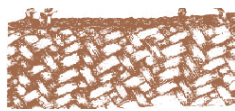
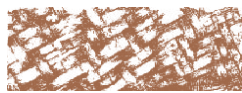
A great little book to begin the journey of bicultural development.



### Russell Bishop & Mere Berryman - Culture Speaks. Cultural relationships and classroom learning

This is a powerful book and is another essential read for anyone working in education in Aotearoa New Zealand. In this book Bishop and Berryman share the interviews they had with over 70 high school students as well as their families and teachers. The students were from both ends of the spectrum, from disengaged to deeply engaged, their voices will help lead you to reflect on Māori educational achievement. The book also shares strategies for effectively engaging Māori students.





Upcoming ELP Events	November 2011 - January 2012	
<p><b>08.11.2011</b> Lecture Series Auckland Robyn Gerrity (Carol White Family Centre) &amp; Linda Mitchell (University of Waikato): Culturally Responsive Pedagogy - What Might It Look Like?</p> <p><b>12.11.2011</b> Workshop, Kaukapakapa Alison Brierley: Plastic of Papatuanuku? Thinking outside the squares we live in.</p> <p><b>15.11.2011</b> Lecture Series Hamilton Robyn Gerrity (Carol White Family Centre) &amp; Linda Mitchell (University of Waikato): Culturally Responsive Pedagogy - What Might It Look Like?</p> <p><b>15.11.2011</b> Workshop, Browns Bay Alison Brierley: Catching the threads and weaving continuity: Supporting children to grow as powerful, competent learners.</p> <p><b>16.11.2011</b> Workshop, Kaukapakapa Alison Brierley: Plastic of Papatuanuku? Thinking outside the squares we live in.</p>	<p><b>16.11.2011</b> Workshop, Browns Bay Alison Brierley: ECE environments, Defying nature deficit order.</p> <p><b>28.11.2011</b> Workshop, Browns Bay Alison Brierley: Learning Stories revisited. Catching the threads and weaving continuity.</p> <p><b>5.12.2011</b> Workshop, Browns Bay Alison Brierley: ECE environments, Opening the gate - letting our spirits fly.</p> <p><b>6.12.2011</b> Workshop, Browns Bay Alison Brierley: Learning Stories revisited. Day seminar 2.</p> <p><b>12.12.2011</b> Workshop, Browns Bay Alison Brierley: Learning Stories revisited. Planning for learning.</p> <p><b>17.1.2012</b> Workshop, Ponsonby Jo Colbert: Summer Series. Finding the story - evening workshop.</p>	<p><b>18.1.2012</b> Workshop, Ponsonby Jo Colbert: Summer Series. Finding the story - full-day workshop.</p> <p><b>23.1.2012</b> Workshop, Browns Bay Alison Brierley: Learning Stories revisited. Kei Tua o te Pae unpacked and dusted off.</p> <p><b>24.1.2012</b> Workshop, Ponsonby Jo Colbert: Summer Series. Recognising the landscape - evening workshop</p> <p><b>25.1.2012</b> Workshop, Ponsonby Jo Colbert: Summer Series. Recognising the landscape - full-day workshop.</p> <p><b>26.1.2011</b> Workshop, Browns Bay Alison Brierley: ECE environments, Day seminar.</p> <p><b>31.1.2012</b> Workshop, Ponsonby Jo Colbert: Summer Series. Taking flight - evening workshop.</p>

You can find out more about Alison's and Jo's workshops by going to our [website](#) (ELP website/Our programme 2011/Workshops in Auckland and on the North Shore). Alison and Jo are also offering in-centre professional learning programmes in these areas and you can get more information and our flyers [here](#) (ELP website/Our programme 2011/In-centre professional learning programme).