

What is child led play in early years?

Definition:

Child led play is initiated by children based on their interests, allowing them to control their activities while adults provide support and resources without directing the play

Role of adults:

Adults act as facilitators by creating a safe and stimulating environment, observing children's interactions, and offering materials to enhance creativity and problem solving

Benefits:

This approach encouraged creativity, builds confidence, enhances social skills, supports emotional development and promotes independence in children.

Challenges and misconceptions:

Balancing safety with freedom can be difficult, and there are misconceptions that child-led play lacks educational value. It fosters essential skills such as self-regulation and decision making