

## Symbolic Play and Language: A Developmental Relationship

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**Abstract :** Play activities have long been utilized to support the development of expressive language in young children. More specifically, stages of symbolic play, or pretend play, have served as indicators of levels of cognitive development, the foundation of language. This presentation will examine the relationship between symbolic play and language development in toddlers and preschoolers. Implications for clinicians and educators will be discussed.

**Keywords :** cognition, language development, pretend play, symbolic play

**Conference Title :** ICPBLECE 2022 : International Conference on Play-Based Learning and Early Childhood Education

**Conference Location :** Lisbon, Portugal

**Conference Dates :** February 07-08, 2022