



“In order to lead the world, our country must have an educational system that begins with early childhood education and which utilizes proven practices to support children’s growth, development, and educational success. This will only happen if parents are actively involved in educational issues on behalf of their own children and children throughout the country.”

- An Insider’s Guide to Education for Parents
A blog from Dr. Elanna Yallow



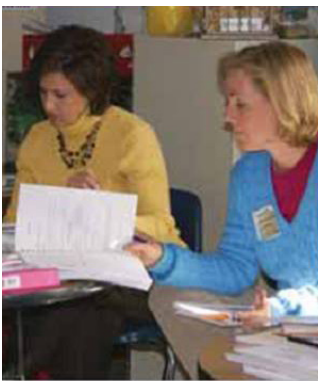
Gesell Institute of Human Development

What’s Been Going On Inside the Institute throughout Nov & Dec?

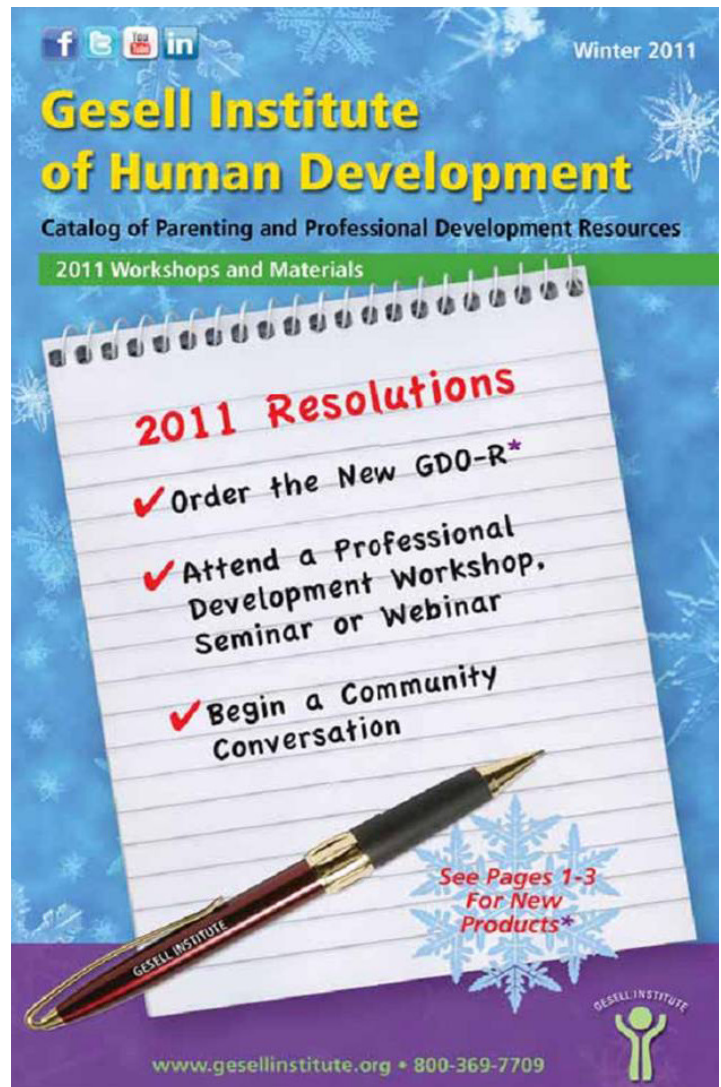
NEW Extra! Extra! New Catalog Is Out!

Just in time to make your Resolutions! Our **Winter 2011 Catalog** is full of new products, announcements, seminar offerings, and professional development opportunities. For your New Year’s Resolution are you planning professional development for your school or district? Were you thinking about offering a seminar for parents? Want to learn more about our new GDO-R? How to plan a Parents’ Meeting? Than look no further and learn how to raise test scores the right way!

To view our new Winter 2011 catalog online, please visit:
www.gesellinstitute.org/pdf/Gesell2011Winter.pdf



Raise Test Scores the *Right* Way!



A child is more than a score...



NEW Hot Off The Presses!



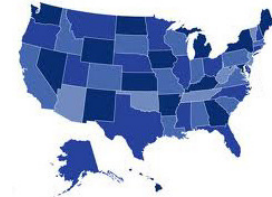
New! The much anticipated **Gesell Developmental Observation-Revised (GDO-R) © 2010 will soon be available** for 2 ½ to 9 year-old children. Our tool incorporates valuable information from the Parent/Guardian and Teacher Questionnaires to fully understand child behavior in multiple environments. It also meets current requirements for **IDEA** and **HEAD START**. Please review our new Winter catalog for further information on all products and how to order.

“Each child develops uniquely. The beauty of the GDO-R is that it captures the unique development of each child giving the assessor valuable insight about that individual child. It’s a valuable tool that’s a fun, stress-free experience for everyone involved.”

Our gift to you:
Use special offer code **HOLIDAY10** to save **10%** on your new **GDO-R** purchase. Offer good through **1/15/11!**

Save on Orders Placed At Our Workshops!

Gesell Institute’s National Lecture Staff



Gesell Institute is represented throughout the United States by the NLS, a carefully selected, highly educated, intensively trained, and skilled group of professionals.

Coming from such diverse backgrounds as school superintendents; principals and other administrators; preschool, elementary, secondary, and university teachers; as well as resource and special education professionals, the NLS work together to provide a comprehensive program for staff development and in-service training across the country.

Are you interested in becoming a part of our NLS Staff?

The Institute currently has NLS Representatives in Arizona, Florida, Michigan, North Carolina, Oklahoma and Texas. We are always looking for more! Please contact us if you are interested in becoming a staff member or how to register for a workshop in your area.

Call us TODAY at 1-800-369-7709

A child is more than a score...





Parent-Teacher Connection Program

Happy Holidays from the Parent-Teacher Connection Program (P-TCP)! As we reflect on 2010, it brings us great joy to celebrate the great strides each student, family, and school has made. Most recently, a little boy just learned the sound a “J” makes; another family has made library visits a regular family routine.

Each day, the staff of The Parent-Teacher Connection Program sees the fruits of their labors and feels the gratitude of the people whose lives are improved by our work. On behalf of the Parent-Teacher Connection Program team, thank you for your ongoing support. Without you, our work would not be possible.

In the coming months, we look forward to sharing more stories of success with you.

Wishing you the warmest of holiday seasons and a bright and healthy 2011.

Marina Pappas, Program Director (P-TCP)



2009 – 2010
Gesell Institute Annual Report

Our Annual Report is here! Please visit <http://www.gesellinstitute.org/pdf/Gesell0910AR.pdf> Between completing our three-year long GDO Study and planning for our 60th Anniversary event, we have been so busy here at the Institute.

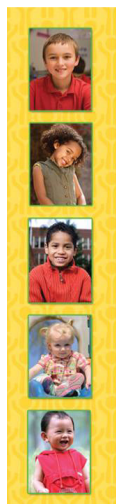


In this issue of the Annual Report you will find:

- A Message from our Executive Director, Dr. Marcy Guddemi
- Institute History and current Mission
- Remembering Richard Ruiter (NLS) 1940-2010
- Year In Review
- Parent-Teacher Connection Program Update
- Results of our Study
- Coverage of our memorable LEAD Conference
- And More!

A child is more than a score...

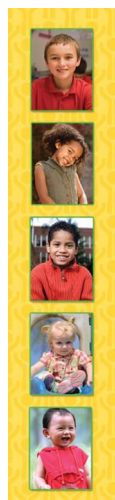




The Role of Play in an Overly- Academic Kindergarten

Marcy Guddemi, Ph.D., MBA
Gesell Institute of Human Development
New Haven, CT

NAEYC



WHAT IS PLAY?

PLAY, along with the basic needs of nutrition, health, shelter and education, is vital to develop the potential of all children.

PLAY is communication and expression, combining thought and action; it gives satisfaction and a feeling of achievement.

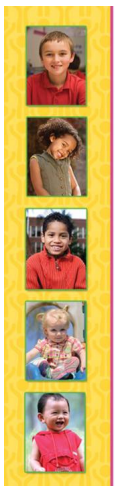
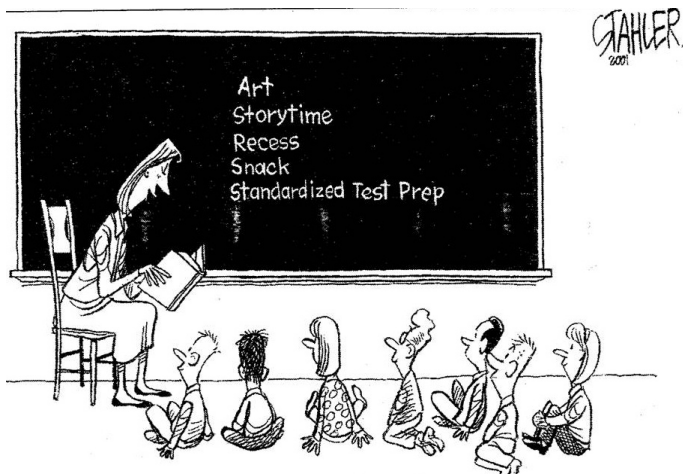
PLAY is instinctive, voluntary, and spontaneous.

PLAY helps children develop physically, mentally, emotionally and socially.

PLAY is a means of learning to live, not a mere passing of time.

PLAY is the child's way of learning.

PLAY is the work of the child. (Piaget)

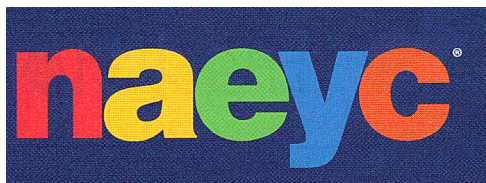


Kindergarten is now our new first grade!

- Crisis in the Kindergarten!
- Children must be readers by the end of the K year
- Sit in desks and “learn”
- Teaching to the test—isolated “factoids”
- Ignoring everything we know about how young children learn
- No time for play!



In November Dr. Marcy Guddemi, Executive Director of Gesell Institute, presented at NAEYC's Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, while the staff of the Institute was in the Convention Center as an Exhibitor. Thank you to everyone who came to see us. The slides above are a sampling of Marcy's presentation. For the full slide show, please visit www.gesellinstitute.org/pdf/RoleOfPlayNAEYC2010.pdf to download it. We had a wonderful time at the conference and were so happy to meet you.



A child is more than a score...



Who's Who on the GDO Study Team

Marcy Guddemi, PhD, MBA

Marcy is Gesell Institute's Executive Director, and a widely recognized expert in early childhood education, as well as a proponent of the rights of the child and the importance of play in early learning. She is an accomplished author and early childhood educator, with extensive corporate experience in educational publishing and specifically early childhood assessment products.



Andrea Sambrook, MA

Andrea joined the team as Program Coordinator in June 2009, and brings to Gesell not only a dedication to applied child development, but a wealth of experience in community based research with parents and toddlers from low income neighborhoods. Andrea has extensive experience developing grassroots initiatives in school and community settings centered on issues of environmental health, safety, and wellness for children and families.

Marina Pappas

After teaching High School Special Education in Phoenix, AZ through Teach for America, Marina shifted her focus to early childhood education when she launched the Jumpstart program at Boston University in 2007. Marina brings focused leadership and a passion for capturing children's abilities to her role as the Director of the Parent-Teacher Connection Program at the Gesell Institute.



Jennifer Pelton, MA

Jennifer joined the Gesell team in August 2010 as the Marketing & Communications Associate. Previously, she studied in Oxford, England where she earned her Master's Degree and had an undergraduate interest in Psychology, Sociology and English. Jen brings in interests from all these endeavors to her work at Gesell as she markets the Institute's new products and social networking sites.

***Save the Date**

First 2 ½ to 6 year old GDO-R Workshops of the New Year!

January 19-21, 2011

Alabama: Hosted by Madison Academy in Madison, AL

Massachusetts: Hosted by Cape Cod Academy in Osterville, MA

Texas: Hosted by St. Austin Catholic School in Austin, TX

January 31 – February 2, 2011

Florida: Hosted by the Donna Klein Jewish Academy in Boca Raton, FL

Register Today at 1-800-369-7709!

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