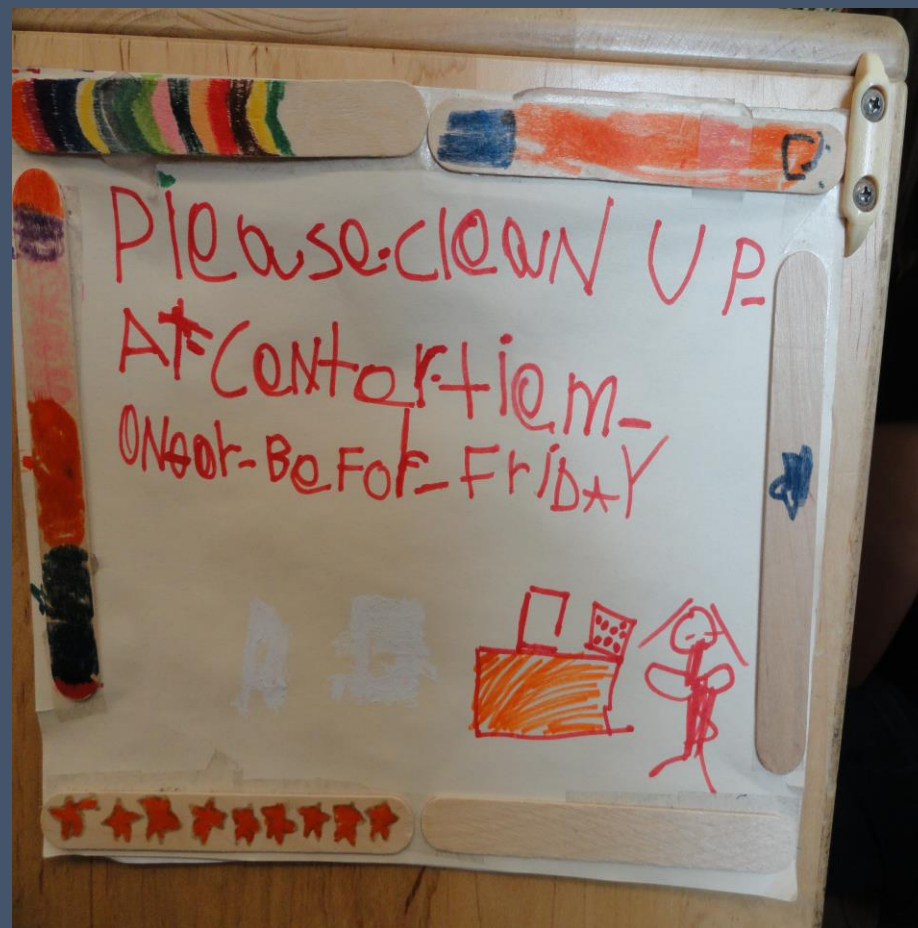
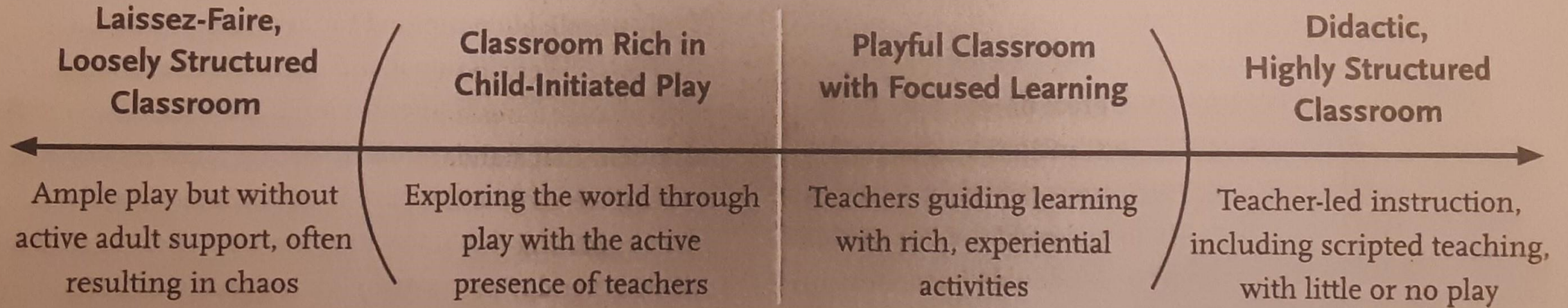


Children naturally learn through play by engaging in and making sense of their world. Play-based learning is self-chosen, enjoyable and process oriented. These opportunities are experiences that are child-directed and teacher facilitated in which teachers take an active role as intentional planners, observers and guides.

Play-based learning maintains the joy of free play while allowing children to connect authentically with content. When children co-construct their learning with their teachers and peers they apply it to their own lives making meaningful, personal discoveries as they progress towards learning goals.



THE KINDERGARTEN CONTINUUM



Play-Based Learning Requires Time, Intentional Planning and Active Teacher Role

Effective play-based learning requires we give students ample time to explore, reflect, and construct knowledge within social contexts through carefully and intentionally planned experiences in which teachers are actively engaged **WITH** children.



- Establish structure that is responsive to needs/uses time wisely
- Predictable schedule, routines and structure, with balance of learning experiences, that also allows for flexibility



Emotional Atmosphere

- Positive climate
- Relationships-spaces for relationships to be fostered and grown
- Supportive of varying learning experiences (whole group, small group, dyads and individual)
- Children have authentic sense of agency/ownership
- Interaction is welcomed and embraced, collaboration fostered

A strong and caring community of learners.....

is a place for children to thrive, feel excited about learning, doing careful and purposeful work and supporting peers.

gives each child a voice and helps them to feel valued, respected and safe at school.

communicates importance of all children's work and shows a variety of ways we think and learn

allows ample time for interaction between all members to support social construction of knowledge

Play-Based Learning Teaching Strategies

- Use an intentional environment to support learning
- Actively engage with children, facilitate, scaffold, challenge, encourage, etc.
- Observation, reflection and assessment
- Responsive questions and commentary

