

Playing Real: Mimesis, Media, and Mischief



What does it mean to play real? For children, play is a way to explore the world around them and to learn about themselves. It is a time for imagination, creativity, and discovery. But play can also be a time for mischief and deception.



Playing Real: Mimesis, Media, and Mischief by Richard M Lytle

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In the media, we often see children playing as innocent and harmless creatures. But the reality is that children can be just as manipulative and deceptive as adults. They can use their play to get what they want, to avoid punishment, or to simply have fun.

The following are five ways that children use play to engage in mimesis, media, and mischief:

1. **Imitation:** Children often imitate the behaviors of the adults around them. This can be a way for them to learn about social norms and expectations. But it can also be a way for them to get attention or to manipulate others.
2. **Fantasy:** Children often create their own worlds of fantasy when they play. This can be a way for them to escape from reality or to explore their own imaginations. But it can also be a way for them to deceive others or to get what they want.
3. **Role-playing:** Children often play different roles when they play. This can be a way for them to explore different aspects of their own personalities. But it can also be a way for them to pretend to be someone they are not or to deceive others.
4. **Mischief:** Children often engage in mischief when they play. This can be a way for them to have fun or to get attention. But it can also be a way for them to hurt others or to damage property.

5. **Deception:** Children often use deception when they play. This can be a way for them to get what they want or to avoid punishment. But it can also be a way for them to manipulate others or to gain an advantage.

It is important to remember that children are not always aware of the consequences of their actions. They may not understand that their play can be harmful or deceptive. It is the responsibility of parents and caregivers to teach children about the difference between right and wrong and to help them to develop a healthy sense of empathy.

Play is an important part of childhood. It is a time for children to learn, to grow, and to develop their imaginations. But it is also important to remember that play can be a time for mischief and deception. Parents and caregivers need to be aware of the potential risks of play and to take steps to protect children from harm.

Play is a complex and multifaceted activity. It can be a time for learning, growth, and discovery. But it can also be a time for mischief and deception. It is important for parents and caregivers to be aware of the potential risks of play and to take steps to protect children from harm.

By understanding the ways that children use play to engage in mimesis, media, and mischief, we can better protect them from the potential risks of play and help them to develop healthy and positive play habits.



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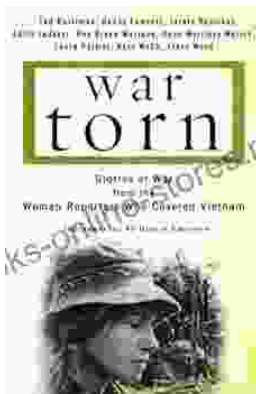
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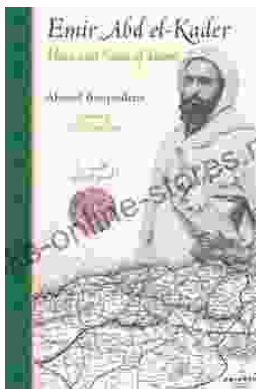
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