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Title

Pedagogical engagement and the co-creation of cultures of exploration

Abstract

In this keynote I will argue for, discuss and outline conditions for a pedagogy that promote curiosity and exploration in early childhood education and how pedagogical engagement is a key personal and professional aspect to achieve quality education for all. The conditions for and characteristics of explorative and curiosity driven practices, found in earlier research literature and own research and experiences, interact in dynamic ways. Central to the keynote is the attempt to visualise how characteristics of cultures of exploration interact with some central conditions in local and global settings. Examples will be taken from The Norwegian Framework plan for the content and task of Kindergartens, as well as from recent experiences working with partnership kindergartens in Norway in the Exploration and Pedagogical Innovation laboratories (EX-PED-LAB). Cultures of exploration in early childhood education introduce a promise of a pedagogy where the teacher co-creates kindergarten content when operating in practice, in planning and meeting children and families in their local community and in considering activities, relations, place and space.