Traditional Games as a Way for Healthy Body, Culture and Movement

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ABSTRACT
The aim of teaching methods of traditional games is original access to knowledge. It highlighted the importance of an use of traditional games in the nursery and primary school that is required to bring out potentialities and plurality of limits of each pupil, which are essential for effective customized teaching planning of educational activities. In the contemporary age traditional games could be a way to debate and establish a comparison of knowledge carriers to communicate methodologies of good practices adopted and experiences in the use in the protection, conservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage. Different intellectual approaches defined traditional games are an expression of a country’s cultural background, beliefs and passions as well as reflect the living conditions at the time of their creation. Traditional games seem to have developed similarly through the ages in various parts of the world even though these were distant from each other. Traditional children’s games could be goal of project to incorporate elements of traditional children’s (outdoor) games in the design of an intelligent, interactive playground.

Key words: Traditional games, Healthy, body, culture and movement.

I. Introduction
The word game means different things to different people. The game satisfies the biological and psychological needs of children and contributes to their mental, emotional, social and moral development. Different roles in the games, although the product of a child’s fantasy, allow the child to gain personal experience of good and bad, about what is positive and what is not in behaviour. Games are an important form of entertainment for children and adults, through which children organize independently and they have an important educational significance. They are a powerful tool for education because through games children acquire knowledge, enrich their experience, and develop skills and habits. The “body” as a concept and as “physical structure” of the child functioning, within the traditional educational settings, has been seen, for long, as something that must be regulated, controlled, disciplined, and subject to the service of pure cognitive knowledge. The primary dominance of knowledge as a concrete controllable and cognitive material (of scientific or social value) has been for long at the centre of our western educational systems and pedagogical principles, and still is, in a certain degree, in various countries. Since some decades, “critical reflective thinking” and “inclusive education” models have shaken the old pedagogical values and transformed the core of education/special education approach leading to a different conceptualization of the body and knowledge. The “body” as a source of emotional activity became a live entity that should be promoted and valued within inclusive educational curricula and school activities, alongside with the new forms of producing knowledge, teaching and connecting with students. This means that games act as a kind of society in miniature and provide the skilled teacher with an ideal opportunity to intervene in a unitary way with the person as a whole; as such, students become the centre of attention and interest of the educational process.

II. Review of Related Literature
According to “Parlebas” the motor behaviour comprehends people both in an individual and global way, in their motor-physical, emotional affective, cognitive, socio-relational and expressive aspects. An important pre-supposition of an effective pedagogy of play suggests that early years practitioners can use their knowledge of the processes and content of children’s play to create content-rich environments that provide a wide range of play possibilities, which promote learning and development, are challenging, engender a feeling of security and wellbeing, and build a sense of community. Huizinga in “Homo Ludens” (1937), maintained that “play is the greatness given to culture, existing before the culture itself, interwoven in human living from the very beginning up to individual experiencing it by each of us, even the research”. For Huizinga the play is the source of culture as a cultural act which served as a foundation for great civilizations. Similarly to Huizinga, Parlebas and Lavega” claimed that play has not only a biological or psychological aspect but it should be seen as a cultural act which served as a foundation for great civilizations. Many studies have emphasized the deep relationship that links the traditional games and culture.

Some authors such as “Bruner and Montessori” have claimed the importance of the relationship between the integration of cultural inputs and motor actions has given rise to large number of researches that have demonstrated how it is a necessary function not only for good academic performance but also for a proper development of the organizational thinking. This means that games act as a kind of society in miniature and provide the skilled teacher with an ideal opportunity to intervene in a unitary way with the person as a whole; as such, students become the centre of attention and interest of the educational process. Since early childhood, children enjoy playing a wide variety of games. It is clear that learn a great deal from the board games, card games, puzzles, and other types of games that I played as a child. In recent years, a number of educators and educational researchers have come to realize that games can be an important component of both informal and formal education. Among the several games recognised by the international scientific community, the traditional games represents expressive forms, processes, and behaviours that we customarily learn, teach and utilize or display during face-to-face interactions and judge to be traditional. They are based on
known precedents or models, and because they serve as evidence of continuities and consistencies through time and space in human knowledge, thought, belief, and feeling.

**An interactive Playground based on traditional children’s play and Movement**

In Italy, the curriculum of nursery and primary school is based on the planning of different experiences that are mainly physical-recreational and which allow the natural observation of the level of potential development of skills and competencies, methods to integrate the direct communication from the teacher and the use of different kind of games. According to Italian Ministry Education play game and movement represents a first and effective form of education for pupils that like all active methods, captures the children’s needs, their interest in achieving goals, as leverage for activity, encouraging the acquisition of essential prerequisites for gradually gaining access to more mature forms of cognitive and social and physiological skills. For “Lavega” the efforts regarding physical education teaching should be focused on the improvement of the motor behaviours and make them efficient in a practical and contextualized way. The “body function” and the “body experience”, as pedagogical concepts have been endorsed, within the new epistemological perspectives, a totally new sense for the child, his/her environment and his/her education. It became a live vehicle that can allow access to knowledge and social interpersonal experience; something that can generate “feelings/emotions, critical thinking and knowledge, as well as forms of attachment and communication” with the external world. It is now seen as an indispensable aspect of pre-school education and human development. For many school psychologists, special educators and classroom teachers is regarded in the center of the child psychosocial development, as a social subject that can reinforce the development of communication skills and abilities to connect with his/her peers and classrooms teachers or express his/her inner world with more genuine means. According to “Parlebas” traditional games offer a much more uneven scenario. In many cases, players may be required to change team, and their opponents suddenly become their teammates (unstable network); sometimes, a given player is potentially a partner and an adversary at the same time, (ambivalent network). This relational inconsistency culminates in the paradox game, full of coalitions and counter coalitions, as contradictory as provisional. Instead of being closely subjected to the logic of a team, often the player is free to make his motor decisions, and may not have to answer to anybody. This total autonomy of the participant in a collective game, unknown in the sport, is only found in some traditional games. In order to design our interactive playground using elements of traditional children’s play, it need to draw from related work in interaction design, it introduce the idea of Game space in playgrounds based on an analysis of many types of traditional playground play: Game space, social interaction, and physical activity. Particular attention should be attributed to the natural needs for play, movement, expression, intimacy and sociability of the pupils which in this sense act as elements that guide the educational activity.

Traditional games are an expression of a country’s cultural background, beliefs and passions as well as reflect the living conditions at the time of their creation. They are based on very accessible physical components found across countries both in rural and urban areas. They are configured as one of the possible work paths to organize activities and experiences designed to promote skills. Based on the significance of different experience to facilitate the organization of a system of relations that has put in communication the cognitive style of each individual pupil, the structure of knowledge to be acquired and all the operations necessary to the incorporation of intellectual and motor learning content in the knowledge structure of each student. Players are engaged in creative learning that engages and re-engages them in games that evolve as they evolve, since an ecologically minded TG(traditional games )teacher becomes a teacher focused on capturing emergent learning, supporting it with “a cognizing moment, and fostering subsequent iterations of that learning back into a new game structure.

**III. Conclusion**

Awareness of non-generalizability of the findings, however, led to the conclusion that there is no definitive best teaching method that would give positive and consistent results in different learning contexts, with any student or teacher, but you should consider alternative methodological in the design of training interventions that take into account the potential of traditional games and creative movement in access to knowledge. Children can be changed in the way they see themselves or other people when they get involved in activities that help them develop skills related to the body; body activities that can have a significant social value or meaning for the child as well as for the other (the teacher, the classroom, the peers, the parents, etc.). The teacher is, of course, complicit in this process, as the architect of the learning structure and as the “curator” of the experience.Traditional game is an authentic school of social values and cultural learning. This means that games act as a kind of society in miniature and provide the skilled teacher with an ideal opportunity to intervene in a unitary way with the person as a whole; as such, students become the centre of attention and interest of the educational process.

**References**


