

# Introduction



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## Tiffany Wilson, Editor

This Spring issue provides readers with information related to the challenges of Covid-19 and the importance of teacher self-care. Moreover, this issue also provides content related to students with disabilities and the impact technology and intentional planning can have on play. The IJWC continues to be committed to promoting holistic learning and the development of children.

### **Article #1:**

Reflection on Practice: Pre-Service Teachers' Reflection and Intentional Planning to Enhance Toddlers' Engagement During Free Play

Jane Seok Jeng Lim, Robyn Ridgley

In the first article, "Reflection on Practice: Pre-Service Teachers' Reflection and Intentional Planning to Enhance Toddlers' Engagement During Free Play," Jane Seok Jeng Lim and Robyn Ridgley discuss their study aimed at exploring pre-service teacher candidates' (PTCs) observations and reflections on toddlers during free play, as well as to provide an opportunity to enhance these PTCs' development. This study is informed by the bioecological model and experiential learning theory. For the study, PTCs observed and reflected on their observations first individually and then collectively. After doing so, PTCs intentionally planned the learning centers in the classroom followed by additional observation and reflection. PTCs' reflections noted key elements for engagement related to location, variety of materials, and modeling by adults.

### **Article #2:**

Motivation for Participation in Extracurricular School Clubs for Students with Severe Disabilities

Alicia Pence

In the second article, "Motivation for Participation in Extracurricular School Clubs for Students with Severe Disabilities," Alicia Pence discusses how students with severe disabilities are often underrepresented compared to students without disabilities in extracurricular school activities. This study seeks to examine the influencing factors of why a student with severe disabilities decides to participate or not participate in extracurricular school activities.

### **Tech Talk Manuscript**

The Whole Teacher: Practicing Self-Care  
Nancy Caukin, Leslie Trail, Constance Wright

In the Tech Talk article, “The Whole Teacher: Practicing Self-Care,” Nancy Caukin, Leslie Trail, and Constance Wright outline teacher stress, including the pandemic’s impact, the effects of stress, and the antidote of self-care. They define self-care and its importance and deconstruct it into elements they call Head (Mental/Cognitive), Heart (Emotional/Spiritual), and Hands (Physical). They then discuss additional components and resources for managing social and emotional health.

### **ETC Manuscript**

Striving From the Margins During COVID-19: One Family's Experience Advocating for Their Middle School E-Learner.  
S. Renée Jones

In the ETC article, “Striving from the Margins During COVID-19: One Family’s Experience Advocating for Their Middle School E-Learner” S. Renee Jones seeks to highlight one family’s struggle to ensure their Black middle schooler received a quality education during the COVID-19 pandemic. Black middle school students can experience various challenges and barriers related to inequities in education. It is imperative that schools work with families to mitigate adverse consequences of learning caused by COVID-19 specifically for marginalized children.

### **Children & Families: Health and Wellness Manuscript**

Instances of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) Among the Young in Turkey  
Simel Parlak, Azize Nilgün Canel

The Health and Wellness article by Simel Parlak and Azize Nilgün Canel researches the origins of emotional and intellectual processes of violence among young people in Turkey. The results of the interpretative phenomenological analysis yielded three themes: childhood experiences, relationship with partner and occurrences of violence, and post-violence experience.

### **Education By the Numbers**

Donald Snead

In Education by the Numbers, Donald Snead brings awareness of the influence teachers have on students and society as a whole. In his summary, Snead reviews various characteristics that are often associated with student success.

### **STEAM Manuscript**

**STREAM into Online Play Groups: How Children Adapt to Play in a Rapidly Digitized World**  
Rebecca Horrace

In the STEAM article, “STREAM into Online Play Groups How Children Adapt to Play in a Rapidly Digitized World,” Rebecca Horrace provides an understanding of the role technology and digital media have on children’s play. She describes the current digital landscape children can use for their play and argues for the integration of technology into children’s play stating that it serves as an additional avenue for play that provides enhancement not found in traditional play. Finally, gives a description of how digital play looks within the context of online play groups.

### **Page Turners: Books for Children**

Katrina Bartow Jacobs, Carla K. Meyer, Michelle Sobolak, Patricia Crawford, and Maria T. Genest

Katrina Bartow Jacobs, Carla K. Meyer, Michelle Sobolak, Patricia Crawford, and Maria T. Genest review a collection of children’s literature. They provide literature for children of all ages aimed at various developmental areas.

### **Emerging Scholar**

**The Impact of Emotional Intelligence among Children with Disabilities and the Role of Professional Educators and Caregivers: A Literature Review**  
Peri Munday, Christan Horton

The Emerging Scholar article, “The Impact of Emotional Intelligence among Children with Disabilities and the Role of Professional Educators and Caregivers: A Literature Review,” Peri Mundy and Christan Horton provide a literature review of the intersection of emotional intelligence, students with disabilities, and the role of professional educators and caregivers.