

## Newsletter no. 6, fall 2018

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We are now entering the Christmas holidays 2018 with a busy and comprehensive semester behind us. As mentioned in the previous newsletter, we conducted interventions in all ECEC institutions August, and started the second data collection (T2) a few weeks after that.



### October, November and December 2018

October was spent to collect data in all the 8 participating ECEC institutions. Video observations of how the children used the changed environment after the intervention were recorded, and qualitative interviews were conducted with a total of 32 employees and the 80 participating children. On October 26th all data were finally collected. Rune, Ole and Ellen Beate immediately started to code physical activity, well-being and involvement in the new video observations. This part of the coding was completed on December 13th. In November, Rune and Ole also began to code kind of play, social relationships, places and materials. At the same time, our research assistant, Marie Aurora, started to transcribe all the interviews. The coding, transcription and further analyzes will be carried on for some time in the winter 2019, but we already see that we have many exciting results. May Liss is in the process of a more detailed coding of the non-play from the first data collection (T1), and Randi has started qualitative analyzes of the symbolic play and to look for conditions in the physical environment promoting this kind of play.



After Christmas, we are receiving a master's student, Patricia, from the University of Victoria in Canada who has done field work in one of the project ECEC institutions since October. She will start to do a more detailed analyzes of risky play in our data material. Patricia stays with us until mid-February. Our DMMH Master's student, Kristin, has begun to transcribe the interviews for her project and will continue analyzing them after during the first part of 2019. The theme of her master's thesis is: What mindsets are promoted through ECEC teachers' experiences with architecture, space and materiality as educational tools?

On October 24th, Ellen Beate attended the conference R&D in Practice (FoU i Praksis) and presented the main results from the first data collection (T1). We have received the response "minor revisions" (suggestions for minor changes) on the two articles we submitted for the special issue in the International Journal of Play; both articles were submitted in a revised version within the deadline, and we are now waiting for a final decision. If everything goes according to plan they will be published in March 2019.

Many of the co-researchers in the project have submitted topics they would like to write about, and the research group has developed a preliminary outline on the content of the anthology we plan to complete at the end of the project (summer 2020). Before Christmas, Ellen Beate submitted a project description for the anthology to the publisher.

### Further working plans

The first weeks and months of 2019 we will work with further analyzes of the data material, and develop conference abstracts, articles and other sorts of dissemination. During the last part of spring we will have a new round of workshops with all our co-researchers, the architect and the landscape architect to interpret the results from both T1 and T2 and to continue developing criteria for optimal ECEC environments.

