Developing innovative research with children and young people

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The reading list contains selected academic resources – for those who have access to such sources – and web resources. (A handy hint: academics are increasingly expected to make publications more available. It can be worth searching on google etc with the journal article’s or book chapter’s title, and see if you can find a next to final version online.)

Wherever possible, web resources are freely accessible. All web resources were checked as accurate as of 20.3.17

Introduction to course


Web Resources

‘How To’ guides on the Participation Works website

http://www.participationworks.org.uk/resources?filter1=HowToGuide

These ‘How To’ Guides offer an introduction to the merits of involving children and young people...
in research and ideas on what needs to be considered before carrying out this work. Most of these are free to download.

Best Practice Research Guide: how to research children and online technologies in comparative perspective
http://www.lse.ac.uk/media@lse/research/EUKidsOnline/EU%20Kids%202006-9%29/EU%20Kids%20Online%20I%20Reports/D42_ISBN.pdf
While rather conservative in its methods, the guide is useful in providing some detailed advice about the positives and negatives of using particular methods with children.

The ladder of young people’s participation
http://freechild.org/ladder.htm
A page containing Roger Hart’s well-known ladder of participation. This model ranks forms of decision making, from those in which children are manipulated by adults or consulted in tokenistic ways, to those in which decision making is shared between adults and children. Some have found this a useful way to understand children participation, while others have argued that it is too simplistic.

MacArthur Foundation
http://www.macfound.org/programs/learning/
An excellent open access resource made available by the MacArthur Foundation through MIT press. 20 full texts about young people on digital media including for example Youth, Identity and Digital Media by David Buckingham.

The McCreary Centre Society Youth engagement page
http://www.mcs.bc.ca/youth_engagement
This page contains links to a range of resources on children’s participation and health, including toolkits and research reports.

Research Mindedness Virtual Learning Resource
A set of general resources designed to help practitioners in social work and social care become more engaged with social research. Includes a brief guide to becoming a researcher as a practitioner, some case studies of research carried out within social work practice, and a useful glossary. It is not specifically aimed at research with children but have a look at the case study entitled ‘child and family’. What do you think of the approach taken here?

Steps to engaging young children in research
https://bernardvanleer.org/?s=Steps+for+Engaging+Young+Children+in+Research
A detailed resource, with practical examples, of using multiple methods. A bonus is the consideration of working with children in various parts of the world. This includes research using: doll play, modelling clay and candle-lit stories in South Africa; accompanying children and gaining children’s opinions using ranking methods in Nepal; and play with puppets in India. Done by
leaders in the field, well worth looking at – and for all children, not just younger children.

We published a special journal issue, with the International Journal on Child, Youth and Family Studies (2014), on qualitative research methods with children and young people. The articles give a good source for current debates on such methods.
http://journals.uvic.ca/index.php/ijcyfs/issue/view/767