

ROSSIE Jean-Pierre and DAOUMANI Boubaker, 2003, *Protocol of Video 1: Doll Play and Construction Play in Sidi Ifni, Morocco, 31.1.2002*, SITREC-Stockholm International Toy Research Centre, Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm – Detailed description of 19 minutes doll play by a 6-year-old girl and a 4-year-old boy with dolls made by the girl and bought dolls, and also of the 26 minutes interview with the players and the boy's mother. Video placed in the video library of SITREC. Email: rossie@sitrec.kth.se

Jean-Pierre ROSSIE and Boubaker DAOUMANI

VIDEO 1: DOLL PLAY AND CONSTRUCTION PLAY IN SIDI IFNI, 31.01.2002

Sidi Ifni, Morocco, 31.01.2002, 19 minutes of play activities.

Followed by 26 minutes interview with the players and a mother by Boubaker Daoumani. Parental authorization given by the mother on the video.

Video recording Jean-Pierre Rossie.

Video Panasonic R55 VHS

Players

Fatiha, girl, 7 years , born in Sidi Ifni, first year of primary school, speaks Moroccan Arabic at home.

Yasin Shmèllal, boy, 4 years 2 months (16.11.1997), born in Sidi Ifni, maternal cousin of Fatiha, speaks Moroccan Arabic at home.

Language and dialogues

Both players use local Moroccan Arabic.

Dialogues recorded on the video and on a separate mini-cassette.

Translation of dialogues first in French by B. Daoumani and JP. Rossie (available in manuscript).

Translation from French into English by JP. Rossie.

Place of action

Small rural city Sidi Ifni, Atlantic coast, Southern Morocco, Avenue Prince Moulay Abdallah, in front of house number 28, the home of Yasin, this street lies parallel with the seashore and a camping with several mobile homes.

Play material

Several self-made dolls and two Barbie-like dolls representing children

Small Donald Duck t one moment representing the primary school teacher.

Sticks, rags, piece white textile fabric representing the play space (possibly a room).

Family situation

Mother of Yasin, about 43 years, childhood in Sidi Ifni but her father comes from the Rif Mountain region in the North of Morocco, sixth year scientific section of secondary school, housewife but regretting not being able to make profit of her studies.

Father of Yasin, about 52 years, comes from the Tafraoute region (Agadir), no paid labor.

Fatiha is a daughter of Yasin's mother's sister.

Popular class families.

Electricity, running water, television (no parabolic antenna) available in Yasin's home.

Special Remarks

In April 2002 Boubaker Daoumani revisited the players to ask some additional questions. Fatiha states that she always plays with both type of dolls, the self-made doll and the Barbie-like doll. The reason she gives for this is that she likes to make dolls and that she has not enough Barbie-like dolls to play a game necessitating many persons, moreover there are no little Barbie-like dolls that can take on the role of children.

She also says that she sometimes plays the mother role herself, the dolls then being her children. But on other occasions the mother role is given to a doll, the tallest doll, often a Barbie-like doll. She stresses that she does not only play household and mother-child games as she also enacts for example wedding festivities with her dolls.

Yasin does not play with dolls when playing alone but when playing with Fatiha he is obliged to do so. He will even accept to prepare dinner but he never wants to make a doll.

Scenes and dialogues

0. View of the environment and play area with the players.

1. Fatiha (F) makes a doll with a wooden spoon (0'55").

2. Yasin (Y) clumsily does as if he makes a doll (Yasin's older sisters who are out of the image tell him that he must make a doll).

3. Fatiha designs a face on the inner side of the spoon.

4. Yasin takes a pencil and makes a trait on his stick.

5. Fatiha is clothing her spoon doll.

6. Yasin does not do much to make a doll.

7. Yasin must hold Fatiha's doll so that she can attach a belt to it (3'50").

Dialogue 1: F "Yasin do as I do. We must make the veil".

8. Two Barbie-like dolls lean against the wall.

9. Fatiha cuts a rag with scissors, and then tears it further apart while Yasin is holding the rag.

10. Yasin hits the ground with a stick (5'10").

Dialogue 2: Y "here it is".

11. Then he uses the same stick and another one as if he wants to make a cross shaped doll's structure (†) meanwhile he sits with his back towards Fatiha and the play setting.

12. Yasin throws the sticks aside and continues to sit with his back to Fatiha and the play activity.

Dialogue 3: F to Y "make the house", Y replies "but wait, wait".

13. Yasin does nothing for a while sitting with an annoyed face.

14. Fatiha starts to make the † for another doll.

15. Yasin takes a stick and makes a rectangular structure with 4 sticks he takes from Fatiha (7'10").

16. Yasin takes a little ball in his hands for a moment.

17. Yasin takes a cloth and puts it in the rectangular he made.

18. Fatiha makes another small † structure for a new doll.

Dialogue 4: F "we are going to make the doll nicer (than all the others).

19. Fatiha lays a doll on the rag Yasin has put in the rectangular frame.

Dialogue 5: F to Y "bring me a stick, the children must be made".

20. Yasin holds a ball in his hands and plays with it for some seconds.

Dialogue 6: F to Y "see there the children near her (the spoon doll), go and make them a midday dinner" (3x).

21. Yasin takes two little sticks, holds them as if he wants to make a †, he takes a white rag, then drops all this, he takes the sticks back and puts them together with the lower stick of the rectangular frame (8'40").

Dialogue 7: Y to F "where is the tajine (the pottery cooking pot)?" F "prepare it with something".

22. Fatiha continues to make the new doll.

Dialogue 8: F "see here her girl and there her boys".

23. Yasin sits on his knees doing nothing and not looking at Fatiha.

Dialogue 9: F to Y "go to make the kitchen (2x)".

24. Yasin takes a Barbie-like doll with long hair, makes a move as if he is putting her on the rag in the rectangular frame, looks at the onlookers and then puts it quickly on the rag (9'25").

Dialogue 10: Y to F "Where is the kitchen?" F to Y "make them the lunch".

25. Yasin takes the ball again in his hands.

26. Fatiha shows something at Yasin that lies before his knees.

Dialogue 11: F "see her daughter (3x)".

27. Fatiha continues to make a doll, she also puts a Barbie-like doll in the rectangular frame (9'25").

28. Yasin changes a bit the place of this doll.

Dialogue 12: Y "where is the lunch", F "go to make the lunch".

29. Yasin wobbles on his knees and then takes a white rag and two sticks acting as if he wants to make a †.

30. Fatiha puts her little doll next to the spoon doll and Barbie-like dolls.

Dialogue 13: F to Y "go to make it", Y replies, "I don't have a lunch".

31. Yasin drops the sticks and white rag, and then he takes only the two little sticks in his hand.

Dialogue 14: F to Y "go to make it", Y replies "I don't have the lunch, I", F replies "go to make it", Y replies "I don't have the lunch, I", F replies "go to make it", Y replies "I don't have the lunch, I".

32. Fatiha takes the white rag Yasin was using and covers the dolls with it.

Dialogue 15: F to Y "go to cover them".

33. Yasin does not do this, so F does it herself.

Dialogue 16: F to Y "give me the sticks".

34. Yasin gives Fatiha the sticks; she starts to make another doll.

Dialogue 17: F to Y "go first to build the kitchen, go first to prepare for us the kitchen, go".

35. Yasin turns with his finger in his nose doing nothing for the rest (10'45").

Dialogue 18: F to Y "but you are going to make the kitchen! (tone is rising), and go to make them lunch".

36. Fatiha takes a ribbon lying near Y.

Dialogue 19: Y to F "where is the kitchen, there is no kitchen" Finally Yasin takes the scissors in hand pushing and hitting things with it, he takes a stick and tries to make a hole in it with the scissors.

Dialogue 20: F to Y "so, makes it with this, see here (2x) make the lunch and the rest" (said with emphasis).

37. Yasin slightly turns his head from right to left (negative reply).

38. Fatiha is making the † of a new doll.

40. Yasin continues to manipulate without much purpose the scissors.

Dialogue 21: Y to F "where is it (the lunch)?"

41. Fatiha makes a gesture of impatience.

Dialogue 22: F to Y "where is it?!" "give me, give me and go to make the 'dwâz' (plate) and the lunch and the lemonade", Y replies "where is the lunch? There is no lunch!"

42. Fatiha designs a face on her new doll, then gives it a dress.

Dialogue 23: F to Y "see here the bride again, see there the girl of the bride (arûsa)".

43. Yasin takes a long ribbon and does again as if he is making a doll, he drops the stick, tries again and then takes one stick and turns the rag around it (13'05").

Dialogue 24: Y “let’s go there”. F “go to make us the lunch and all the rest”. Y “where is the lunch?”. F “make us the meal (plate)”. Y “where is the meal?”. F “go to prepare us something”. F “go to make the lunch and all the rest”.

44. Meanwhile Fatiha’s new doll is finished and she puts it with the other dolls under the rag covering them. Yasin looks for a while at what Fatiha is doing then he continues to turn the rag around the stick (13’30”).

45. Fatiha takes the dolls away from the rectangular structure, she takes the spoon doll and lays it in her lap; meanwhile Yasin continues to turn the rag around the stick.

Dialogue 25: F “see there the lunch, wake up”, Y “where is the lunch, I don’t see it”.

46. Fatiha takes a little doll, puts it on her knees and looks at Yasin; while searching something the doll falls of Fatiha’s knees, she takes the spoon doll in her hand still searching something.

Dialogue 26: F “take your breakfast”, F to Y “go and prepare us” (13’35”). While Yasin takes the scissors he replies “am I your sister?”, F answers “don’t forget what you have said”.

47. Yasin wants to cut the rag he was turning around the stick with the scissors but as he cannot cut it he strips the rag of the stick.

48. Fatiha looks for a pencil.

Dialogue 27: F to Y “give me the color pencil (3x), Y replies “where is the color pencil?”.

49. Fatiha has found the color pencil herself and designs a face on the doll.

50. She puts the little doll against the house wall.

Dialogue 28: F “there they are, the (the children) will leave for school now, go!”.

51. Fatiha takes the spoon doll and lays it in the rectangular structure.

Dialogue 29: F to Y “go to make us lunch, see they are going to sleep”.

52. Yasin plays disinterestedly with the scissors, he makes a move to cut the rag but drops it immediately.

53. Fatiha puts two other little self-made dolls in the rectangular structure and covers them with the lower part of the rag lying under them (14’40”).

54. Yasin looks around holding the open scissors in one hand, he takes a stick and holds it in one hand meanwhile he looks at the onlookers with an annoyed expression on his face.

55. Fatiha wants to make another doll and talks to Yasin.

Dialogue 30: “give me the sticks”.

Yasin throws a stick to Fatiha, then he manipulates a ribbon for a while turning it around his fingers.

56. Fatiha makes another doll (15’25”).

Dialogue 31: F to Y “give me something”.

57. Yasin throws his ribbon and then another rag to Fatiha with a slightly aggressive gesture.

Dialogue 32: F to Y “go to prepare them the dinner (3x), Y replies, “go yourself! I am a man not a woman! I, I am a man not a woman”.

58. Yasin plays for a while with the scissors.

Dialogue 33: F to Y “but it is necessary to make them a dinner”.

59. Fatiha continues to make a doll.

Dialogue 34: F “they will soon wake up, eight o’clock is approaching so that they will go to school”. F to Y “go and make them breakfast”. Y replies “tell me, they are going to the school?”, F replies “Yes, they enter school at eight o’clock”.

60. Yasin still plays with the scissors.

Dialogue 35: F “and eight o’clock is approaching, go to make them breakfast”, Y replies “go yourself! Am I a woman!”.

61. Fatiha designs a face on the doll.

Dialogue 36: F “their big sister has gone to make them a breakfast, she doesn’t care about you”.

62. Just then Yasin drops the scissors and takes a stone and a little stick.

Dialogue 37: Y to F “see here the breakfast, see it here, see here the breakfast (2x), F replies “where is it?”, Y replies “here it is”, F to Y “give me the rag”, Y replies “where is it”.

Dialogue 38: F to Y “like this one, give”.

63. Fatiha throws a rag to Yasin.
 64. Yasin opens the rag and gives it to Fatiha (16'50").
 65. Fatiha uses it to make a dress for her new doll.
 66. Yasin wobbles again on his knees (17').
Dialogue 39: F to Y "go to make something", Y replies "where is the thing, I haven't seen it".
 67. Yasin takes the little ball lying against the wall.
Dialogue 40: F to Y "go to make them the 'dwâz' (plate) or something, go!"
 68. Yasin gives two small white things to Fatiha.
Dialogue 41: F to Y "go to make them the plate and the breakfast.
 69. Yasin manipulates the ball for a longer time in a seemingly annoyed way.
Dialogue 42: F "they have gone to school".
 70. Fatiha makes a doll.
Dialogue 43: F "they did not come back yet, go make us breakfast! (an order)", Y replies inaudibly.
Dialogue 44: F to Y "and so, you have to make the breakfast and the plate. See, their big sister has gone to make the plate. She doesn't care about you".
 71. Fatiha puts this doll with the other dolls against the wall (18'10").
Dialogue 45: F "see, she is there, wake up! See there, they did wake up".
 72. Fatiha takes the spoon doll on her lap.
 73. Fatiha takes the small dolls in her hand and lays them against the wall.
Dialogue 46: F "see them, they are going to school, they. See them, she has brought them (2x)".
 74. Yasin plays with the ball and says:
Dialogue 47: Y to F "is this the school?"
 75. Fatiha puts the spoon doll on the rag in the rectangular structure.
 76. Fatiha blows as if she indicates that it is enough.
Dialogue 48: F to Y "go and take them to the room (possibly the school) (2x).
 77. Yasin wants to cover the doll with the lower part of the rag.
 78. But Fatiha puts first a second doll under the rag.
Dialogue 49: F to Y "go to take them back from school (2x).
 79. Yasin covers these dolls.
Dialogue 50: F to Y "go bring them lunch at school.
 80. Yasin puts two sticks forming the walls of the rectangular structure in their correct place.
Dialogue 51: F to Y "go to make them lunch and something else".
 81. Fatiha starts playing with the ball.

VIDEO 1 – DOLL PLAY AND CONSTRUCTION PLAY IN SIDI IFNI, 31.01.2002

Interview with the players by Boubaker Daoumani

26 minutes interview recorded on the video and on a separate mini-audiocassette

Sidi Ifni, Morocco, 31.01.2002.

Video recording Jean-Pierre Rossie.

Video Panasonic R55 VHS

Players:

Fatiha, girl, 7 years, first year of primary school, speaks Moroccan Arabic at home.

Yasin Shmèllal, boy, 4 years 2 months, maternal cousin of Fatiha, speaks Moroccan Arabic at home.

Language :

Both players and Yasin's mother use local Moroccan Arabic.

Translation of interview first in French by B. Daoumani and JP. Rossie (available in manuscript).

Translation from French into English by JP. Rossie.

Place of action:

Small rural city Sidi Ifni, Atlantic coast, Southern Morocco, Avenue Prince Moulay Abdallah, in front of house number 28, the home of Yasin, this street lies parallel with the seashore and a camping with several mobile homes.

Interview with the players

Fatiha (F.), Yasin (Y.), Boubaker (B.)

- B. What are you making know? Who made this doll?
F. Inaudible.
B. What does this doll do?
F. She does the household.
B. What about the household?
F. She makes the dish and she makes them sleep.
B. For whom is she making the dish?
F. For her daughters.
B. How many children?
F. She has three.
B. And you (Y) what have you done?
Y. I am the man.
B. You are helping her, no? How are you helping her? What are you making (x2)?
B. And what are the children then doing?
F. They go out, the sleep.
B. These things there for what are they used?
F. It is to sleep.
B. What is that, it is a room?
F. Yes.
B. They sleep there?
F. Yes.
B. And when they wake up what are they doing?
F. They wash their face.
B. Where is the water?
F. Look there, see there the faucet or tap.
B. When they have washed their face what do they do?
F. They take breakfast and go to school.
B. What are they doing at school? But who teaches them?
F. The schoolteacher.
B. Where is the schoolteacher? I don't see a teacher.
F. Look there he is.
B. Is this the teacher?
B. Show us the situation when the teacher teaches the children.
F. Look like that he teaches them.
B. What does he teaches them?
F. He teaches them reading and grammar in Arabic and reading in French.
B. Reading in French too? So, they read French!
B. And when they come back from school?
F. Inaudible.
B. Who is making them a dish?
F. Their mother.
B. Where is their mother?
F. Look there.
B. Oh, there is their mother.

B. What is their mother doing at home?
 F. She is doing the housework and preparing the dish.
 B. But where is the dish, I did not see it?
 F. See there.
 B. Ah this is the dish.
 B. What will they do with the dish?
 F. They will eat it.
 B. I did not see that they were eating the dish.
 F. They did not come back for school yet.
 B. So we will wait till they come back from school?
 F. See there they are coming back from school.
 F. See they are eating.
 B. How are they eating? Show us how.
 B. They are eating isn't it? And after that?
 F. They are going to wash their hands.
 B. They wash their hands! Here do they wash their hands?
 F. At the faucet or tap.
 B. Where is the faucet?
 F. There it is.
 B. And what is their mother doing after that?
 F. She is preparing the room for them.
 B. Who has given you the blanket with which you cover them?
 F. It is from the house.
 B. Where are the dolls you did not make yourself
 B. Where are the dolls you did not make yourself?
 F. There they are.
 B. Give them to me. Who did clothe them that way?
 F. We bought them.
 B. Who did buy them for you?
 F. My mother.
 B. And this one did your mother buy it too?
 F. Yes.
 B. Which is the prettiest, this one or that one?
 F. That one (she points to the Barbie-like doll with hair).
 B. And why is she the prettiest?
 F. This one has hair and the other one is bald.
 B. It is your mother who did buy you this one!
 F. Yes.
 B. On what occasion, at which moment?
 F. During summer.
 B. For the Mousseem (the yearly festivities in July).
 F. Yes.
 B. Is it really during the Mousseem?
 F. Oh yes!
 B. And the other one where did she buy it?
 F. She bought both of them for me during the Mousseem.
 B. And why during the Mousseem, they don't exist in the market?
 F. They are not sold in the market.
 B. Many of these are sold during the Mousseem?
 F. Yes.
 B. Is it really during the Mousseem?
 F. Ah yes!
 B. And the other one where did she buy it?
 F. She bought both during the Mousseem.
 B. And why during the Mousseem don't they exist at the market?

F. They are not sold at the market.
 B. Many of these are sold during the Moussem?
 F. Yes.
 B. And you (speaking to the boy Yasin), what did your mother buy for you during the Moussem?
 Y. She bought me clothes.
 B. She didn't buy you a bride doll?
 Y. Negative reply by shaking his head.
 B. You don't play with dolls?
 Y. No!
 B. I have seen that you don't want to play with your sister. You don't like to play with dolls?
 Y. Reply inaudible.
 B. With what do you like to play?
 Y. With this (indicates the sticks).
 B. What do you make with them?
 Y. Reply inaudible or no reply.
 B. Takes the Donald Duck in his hands and talks to Y.
 Y. This is mine, pointing at the Donald Duck.
 B. Who did buy you this?
 Y. My father.
 B. Where?
 Y. At the market.
 B. They exist at the market?
 Y. Yes.
 B. This one (Donald Duck) what was it?
 F. The teacher.
 B. Is this one the teacher?
 F. Replies with a smile.
 B. Why is this one the teacher?
 F. Because it is a man.
 B. Who did prepare the meal you or she?
 Y. It's her.
 B. And you, you can prepare nothing?
 Y. I am a man!
 B. You are what?
 Y. A man.
 B. Oh! You are a man and you don't like to prepare a meal isn't it?
 Y. Agreement is expressed non-verbally.
 B. Tell me what can you make?
 Y. Like this.
 B. Like this?
 Y. Like this.
 B. Like this?
 Y. Yes.
 B. But I have seen your sister making this.
 Y. No reply.
 B. What else can you make?
 Y. -----
 B. Who has made the house in which the children did sleep?
 Y. Me.
 B. It's you who made it?
 Y. Yes.
 B. With what?
 Y. With this.
 B. Show us how you did this.

Y. Shows it.
 B. But it is not like that. Show us how the house was really made some minutes ago.
 Y. Starts to make the house.
 B. What is missing?
 Y. This is left.
 B. Where did you get this?
 Y. From our home.
 B. Who did these nails?
 Y. My brother.
 B. And what is this. With what are they covered?
 F. No it is on it that the children are lying down.
 Y. It is here that they sleep.
 B. Show us how.
 Y. They sleep here, it is done like that (Y starts to prepare the house).
 B. It is like that that you do? Where are the children?
 Y. They are here.
 B. What do you do with them?
 Y. Shows how the dolls are put in place.
 B. Where do you put them, above or under? Show us how you do it.
 Y. Shows how it is done.
 B. Now it is night and they sleep.
 B. This one you don't change her (Barbie-like doll) clothes?
 F. No.
 B. And why they always stay with the same clothes?
 F. It's only a doll.
 B. This one is yours and the other is hers, isn't it?
 Y. This one (the doll with hair) is mine; my sister brought it for me.
 B. It's yours (the doll without hair)? That one is hers and this one is yours?
 Y. No! It's the other one and that one is hers.
 B. Take yours (to the girl) and this one is his, he doesn't want the bald doll.
 F. Reply inaudible.
 B. OK. Your doll has a name?
 F. Her name is Yasmina.
 B. And the name of your doll?
 Y. Zohra.
 B. And the other ones do they have a name?
 F. Khadija, Rquia, Fadma, Fatima.

VIDEO 1 – DOLL PLAY AND CONSTRUCTION PLAY IN SIDI IFNI, 31.01.2002

Interview with Yasin's mother by Boubaker Daoumani

At the end of the 26 minutes interview recorded on the video.

Sidi Ifni, Morocco, 31.01.2002.

Video recording Jean-Pierre Rossie.

Video Panasonic R55 VHS

Language:

Yasin's mother uses local Moroccan Arabic.

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Place of action:

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Interview with the Yasin's mother, about 43-years-old

(M) Yasin's mother, Boubaker (B.)

B. How do you view children's play?

M. I always let my children play outside at least those that don't go to school and those going to school I let them play when there is no school.

B. What about the dolls and other toys?

M. The dolls have been bought for some occasion like feast for example. The children themselves make the other toys. The mother or the older children teach the small ones to make toys just as they did themselves. Dolls existed before (in the mother's child time) but it was only the Christians (Spanish and other Europeans) and the rich who could buy them.

B. Since when do you live here in town?

M. Since the time of the (Spanish) colonization (1934-1969).

B. How do the children make dolls and why is a spoon used?

M. The children make their dolls with sticks or they use a wooden spoon because it already has the shape of a head and so it is easy to make a face, it is not the same as with a simple stick. We played like that in the 1960s.

B. Where are your families from?

M. My father comes from the Rif (North Morocco), my children's father is from Sous, Tafraoute region.

B. You know French well, where did you learn it?

M. I learned it at school as I continued until the sixth year of secondary school, scientific section.

B. Oh fine!

M. Yes, but it is a pity because I stay at home.

B. Tarenja (name of the doll made with a wooden spoon and used to ask for rain) is from the Rif?

M. No, it is a name from here and I don't know how they call it in the Rif. When my father died I only was 40 days old. His father came with the Spanish army to Sidi Ifni before the birth of the mother.

M. We did play with Tarenja to ask for rain. We walked around at night and people gave us some sugar and money, and with that we organized in a street a feast with a religious aspect called 'mârûf'. This is a feast to obtain something from God and/or to receive blessings and not like the feast today without Tarenja. Then we walked around with Tarenja and each girl or boy takes her or his Tarenja that is dressed like an °arûsa or bride.

B. What kind of roles do the children play?

M. They imitate all they see.

B. What are your children doing?

M. I have three girls going to secondary school. Fatiha just started to go to primary school.

B. And the father?

M. The father is retired and receives some allocation because he participated in the resistance against the Spanish.

B. No problem with photographing your children?

M. For Fatiha and Yasin, everybody is allowed to photograph or videotape the little children when they are playing it isn't a problem.

B. You don't direct the play nor intervenes in it. You don't pay attention when they are playing?

M. No, we let them play, they can play as they like, they speak as they wish. Nowadays children also learn to make things at school; there is a special moment for making objects in wood, with gypsum. So the one who plays well at home works well at school in the lesson of

manual training. There are children who can make nothing and they don't get good points. Those who play well can thus ameliorate their school notes. These play activities are a leisure time. Even when a child isn't intelligent it is possible that it can create objects better than it can be successful in reading or writing.

B. And what with the games and toys nowadays?

M. Those who have to care about these games are the Sleuh (Amazighs) because these games come from them. The people who aren't from here, the people from the interior are more developed and they buy toys but our children play with simple things like rags, wood and all they find at home.