

ROSSIE Jean-Pierre and DAOUMANI Boubaker, 2007, *Protocol of Video 2: The Sidi Ifni Toy Maker, Morocco, 02.02.2002*, SITREC-Stockholm International Toy Research Centre, Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm - Detailed description of 35 minutes toy construction and toy play by a 10-year-old boy and his 6-year-old brother; preceded by three minutes interview with the father. Video and audiocassette available in the Musée du Jouet, Moirans-en-Montagne, Jura, France.

## **Jean-Pierre ROSSIE and Boubaker DAOUMANI**

### **VIDEO 2 – CONSTRUCTION PLAY IN SIDI IFNI, 02.02.2002**

**Sidi Ifni**, Morocco, **02.02.2002**, 35 minutes and 40 seconds of play activities.

Preceded by 3 minutes interview with the father and followed by 6 minutes interview with the players both by Boubaker Daoumani. He also interviewed the father in his house prior to the video filming, an interview recorded on audiocassette.

Parental authorization given at the beginning of the video.

Video filming by JP. Rossie.

Video Panasonic R55 VHS

#### **Players:**

Ilyas, boy, 10 years and 1 month, born on 08.01.1992, third year of primary school, speaks Moroccan Arabic at home.

Abdallah, boy, 6 years 8 months, born on 24.05.1995, brother of Ilyas, speaks Moroccan Arabic at home.

#### **Language and dialogues:**

Both players use local Moroccan Arabic.

Dialogues recorded on the video and on audiocassette.

Translation of dialogues in French by B. Daoumani (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 the house of the family Chaki and the home of both players, this street lies parallel with the seashore and a camping with several mobile homes of Europeans (staying for shorter or longer periods during tourist season between November and March).

#### **Play material**

Rectangular and round cardboard boxes, sticks, strings.

#### **Family situation**

See interview with the father of the players at the end of this protocol.

Father: 52-years-old, mother tongue Tashelhit, speaks also Moroccan Arabic and Spanish.

Mother: 40-years-old, mother tongue Tashelhit, speaks also Moroccan Arabic.

7 children: 5 boys and 2 girls.

Popular class family.

Electricity, running water, television with parabolic antenna.

## Scenes and dialogues

0. View of the environment and play area with the players.  
Interview with the father recorded on this video (3'): see at the end of this protocol.
1. Ilyas is putting part of a round cheese cardboard box, serving as wheel, on the cardboard vehicle using an old metal wire as axle (3'20").  
Abdallah is looking at his brother's doings.  
*Meanwhile Ilyas talks to Abdallah who doesn't reply.*
2. Ilyas puts another wheel on the vehicle.  
Abdallah sits down and continues looking at him.
3. Ilyas takes a fourth round cardboard box and fixes it to the vehicle.  
Meanwhile Abdallah is looking around.
4. *Ilyas speaks to Abdallah to direct his younger brother's attention to what he is doing*  
Abdallah does as he is told and looks at his brother (4').
5. Ilyas takes a pair of scissors and a piece of cardboard. Then he asks Abdallah to hold the other end of the cardboard piece, what Abdallah does.
6. Ilyas carefully cuts several times the front part of the rectangular piece of cardboard.  
Abdallah observes this.
7. Ilyas has made eight cuts parallel to each other's and at more or less equal distance creating something like a dentition. Then he bends upwards each second lid.  
Abdallah is continues looking at his brother's work.
8. Ilyas shows the result to Abdallah. He then cuts of the upward bended lids with the scissors. (5'06").  
Abdallah rubs his eyes.
9. The wind blows away the cardboard vehicle but some on looking children bring it back.  
Ilyas controls the position of one wheel.  
Abdallah still rubs his eyes.
10. Ilyas takes the pair of scissors and makes a horizontal cut in the smaller side of the cardboard box (5'20").
11. In this cut Ilyas introduces the long rectangular piece of cardboard but with end opposite the tooth like part.
12. Ilyas sees that the cut is not wide enough and enlarges it with the scissors.  
Abdallah is looking attentively.
13. Ilyas pushes the long rectangular piece of cardboard up to its middle through the cut.
14. Ilyas takes another piece of flat cardboard that is somewhat larger than the small side of the cardboard box.
15. Abdallah takes in his hand the long rectangular piece of flat cardboard by its tooth like end but only for a second. Then he looses his grip.  
Meanwhile Ilyas is pulling the vehicle towards himself to put in place the two wheels that felt of when the vehicle was blown away (6'56").
16. Abdallah holds one upper edge of the vehicle as if he wants to keep it in place while Ilyas fixes the wheels (7').
17. Ilyas takes smaller rectangular cardboard box, puts it away, takes an even smaller one and then another cardboard box.  
Abdallah looks at what his brother is doing.
18. Ilyas takes the pair of scissors and starts to cut in the small cardboard box.  
Abdallah stretches out his hand to prevent the wind to blow away the vehicle.
19. Ilyas puts the vehicle in between him and Abdallah.  
Abdallah has taken a flat rectangular piece of cardboard in his hands (7'35").
20. Ilyas cuts out a door in the small cardboard box and takes a long rectangular flat piece of cardboard he seems wanting to attach to it but then he drops it.
21. Abdallah gets hold of the long flat rectangular piece of cardboard that passes through the cut in the vehicle as if he wants to put it in place (8'20").
22. Ilyas picks up the small cardboard box and puts it inside the vehicle.
23. Abdallah keeps the vehicle at one upper edge with both hands.

- Ilyas takes a ballpoint and starts to design some lines on a rectangular flat piece of cardboard (8'30").
24. Ilyas designs a perfect circle and some other lines in this circle.
  25. Ilyas then takes the scissors and cuts out the circle.  
Meanwhile Abdallah holds the vehicle at an upper edge with both hands.
  26. Ilyas starts to design on another piece of cardboard.  
Abdallah watches this closely (10').
  27. Abdallah holds the vehicle and one wheel while Ilyas cuts out the designed piece.  
Both players look now and then at the talking onlookers.
  28. Abdallah sits down and watches his brother.  
Ilyas designs two lines on another rectangular piece of cardboard, then folds it.
  29. Ilyas shows his younger brother how to do this.  
Abdallah watches attentively.
  30. Ilyas bends the flat piece of cardboard in such a way that it looks like the upper structure of a car. Then he places it on another flat piece of cardboard serving as the basis of the car.  
Abdallah continues to watch all this closely (12'20").
  31. Ilyas now cuts of the part of the car's basis at the place where the upper structure stops (12'50").
  32. Ilyas verifies if all is well. He then takes another flat piece of cardboard.  
Abdallah seems to show his brother where the ballpoint lies.
  33. Ilyas takes the ballpoint and designs a small round on the cardboard and cuts it out. It is as if he wants to attach this round to the car but he puts everything on the ground.  
Abdallah continue to watch closely.
  34. Ilyas takes a short iron wire and puts it through the center of the wheel (14'10").
  35. Ilyas takes the basis of the car and at both ends he designs a line. He then skillfully makes a small cut where the lines are using the big pair of scissors.
  36. Ilyas takes the upper part of the car and cuts out two lids that should fit in the cuts made in the basis.
  37. Ilyas bents the middle lid upward and the two side lids downwards. After doing this he pushes the middle lid through the cut in the basis of the car.
  38. Ilyas holds the middle lid with one hand and cuts of the two other lids (16'10").
  39. At the other side he only puts the middle lid in the cut of the basis (16'40").
  40. Ilyas flattens a little bit the upper structure of the car (the wind is disturbing his work and blows away some pieces of cardboard).
  41. Ilyas takes a long small rectangular flat piece of cardboard and cuts it in two with the scissors.  
Abdallah recuperates some pieces of cardboard while remaining seated, then he gets on one knee and crawls somewhat further bringing back several pieces of cardboard (17').
  42. Ilyas cuts the piece of cardboard in the wanted shape.  
Abdallah gives a cardboard box to his brother (17'30").
  43. Ilyas cuts a T shaped piece of cardboard, tries to fix it at the back of the car but then puts it aside.  
Abdallah is still watching.
  44. Ilyas takes a piece of rectangular flat cardboard, puts it down and takes another piece. At the left side of this new piece he makes two parallel cuts up to about half of its length. Tearing off the two pieces at both sides of these cuts the left half of the rectangular piece of cardboard gets a T shaped form. Ilyas then does the same with the right half of the cardboard.  
Abdallah rubs his eyes because of the sand blown into them by the wind, but he continues watching his brother (19'25").
  45. Ilyas puts the T shaped piece at the back of the car but not being satisfied with the result he takes it away (19'45").
  46. Ilyas puts the car away and looks for some other piece of cardboard. He takes the small wheel he made earlier and puts it at the front of the car (20'32").
  47. Ilyas takes a piece of flat cardboard, takes off a wheel and uses it as model to design another wheel.

- Abdallah looks around for a while but then concentrates again on what his brother does.
48. Ilyas also looks shortly around, and then he designs a circle. He cuts out a new wheel, designs another circle and cuts it also out. Finally he uses this last round as a model to cut out one more wheel but without first designing a circle (22'12").
  49. Ilyas takes the car and adjust somewhat its different parts. He puts an iron wire through a wheel and fixes it at the back of the car.  
Abdallah is still watching.
  50. Ilyas tries to put the wire into the basis of the car, then he takes the scissors and cuts of a little part on the side of the basis (24').
  51. Ilyas pushes a piece of wire serving as axle through the basis at the back of the car and fixes the wheels. Then he does the same at the front of the car.
  52. Ilyas takes the ballpoint and designs some lines on the front of the car (25'20"). He notices that a wheel is missing and looks for a piece of cardboard.  
Abdallah gives him a round piece of cardboard.
  53. Ilyas designs some lines on the wheel then puts a piece of iron wire through it and fixes it at the back of the car.  
Abdallah continues to look at his brother.
  54. Ilyas takes the greatest vehicle on his knees and adjust two wheels. He wants to fix a round cardboard piece at the front of the car but then decides not to do so.
  55. Ilyas puts the car on its four wheels. He then looks for something and finally takes two small cardboard boxes (28').
  56. Ilyas takes the scissors does as if he wants to cut in a cardboard box, then drops it and takes the other one.  
Abdallah sits on his knees, turns his fingers for a moment but then watches his brother again.
  57. Ilyas who is cutting a cardboard box talks to his brother who starts to look more closely.
  58. Ilyas now cuts out a door in the cardboard box (representing a house), opens the door and designs lines on it.  
Abdallah slowly bends his upper body forward and backward and looks at his hands (28'40").
  59. Ilyas puts down his house, takes the large car to adjust a wheel.  
Abdallah is moving his upper body more visibly.
  60. Ilyas talks to Abdallah who moves his body forward to see better what his brother does.  
Ilyas pulls of a wheel to adjust the wire and then pushes a small piece of cardboard on it.  
Abdallah again moves his upper body forward and backward (29'50").
  61. While Ilyas continues to push the small piece of cardboard over the wire,  
Abdallah takes a little stick lying before him and plays with it (30'15") (filming is stopped for about 25").
  62. To keep the wheel in place Ilyas puts a small piece of cardboard over the wire serving as axle.  
Abdallah looks at how this is done while continuing to play with his little stick (31').
  63. Ilyas puts does the same with the other three wheels.  
Abdallah is looking without much concentration.
  64. Inside view of the big car.  
Ilyas takes the little car and puts it on top of a small cardboard box. He puts this car aside and takes the small box in his hands (31'30").
  65. Ilyas has made windows n the cardboard house.  
Abdallah continues to sit down but without really watching his brother's work
  66. Ilyas attaches a string to the large car (32'40").
  67. Ilyas takes a piece of a plank.  
Abdallah has taken the large cardboard house and designs some lines on it (33').
  68. Ilyas finds the nail he is looking for, flattens it with a stone, and then pulls it through the small plank using the same stone (33'35").  
(15" without images)
  69. Ilyas hits the nail with a stone, receives some nails from onlookers, takes another nail and drives it through the plank. He then looks if the nail passes through the plank (33'55").  
(10' without images)

70. Ilyas has attached the small car at one end of the plank with a string and fixes the other end of the plank with a nail into a wooden block (34'40").
71. Ilyas tries to use this device to make his little car going forward by moving the small plank to the left (35'30").
72. Boubaker Daoumani begins to talk with the two boys (35'40").

## **VIDEO 2 –CONSTRUCTION PLAY IN SIDI IFNI, 02.02.2002**

### **Interview with the players by Boubaker Daoumani**

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

#### **Players:**

Ilyas, boy, 10 years and 1 month, born on 08.01.1992, third year of primary school, speaks Moroccan Arabic at home.

Abdallah, boy, 6 years 8 months, born on 24.05.1995, brother of Ilyas, speaks Moroccan Arabic at home.

#### **Language and dialogues:**

Both players speak local Moroccan Arabic.

Translation of dialogues in French by B. Daoumani (available in manuscript).

Translation from French into English by JP. Rossie.

#### **Interview with the players**

Ilyas (I.), Abdallah (A.), Boubaker (B.)

B. You are going to school?

I. Yes, in the third year.

B. And Abdallah?

I. He is in the first year.

B. Who taught you to make all this?

I. I myself alone.

B. You are doing well in the course of esthetic education, you like this course?

I. Yes, Oh yes, I have the mention 'good' (7/10).

B. What are you playing?

I. I am constructing houses and I play with my brother.

B. You don't play with the others?

I. Yes I play with my neighbors: Yassin, Khalid.

B. When you play with your friends are they boys and girls?

I. No we only play among boys.

B. The boys and the girls they play separately?

I. The girls play among their own.

B. These toys you made what are they?

I. I have not finished them... There is a tractor, I still have to finish it.

B. Why isn't it finished?

I. I need some more cardboard.

B. Where do you get the cardboard?

I. In one or the other shop.

B. What is this (pointing to some sticks)?

I. This is a device to turn the small car and to make it go forward.

B. Like a motor of the car?

I. Yes.

- B. And what is this (pointing to a cardboard box)?
- I. A school.
- B. You make other things?
- I. I make a lot of things.
- B. What kinds of things?
- I. I also make cars and airplanes.
- B. You just make things?
- I. Yes.
- B. And you play with them?
- I. Yes.
- B. How do you play with this car for example? You only turn it around?
- I. Yes.
- B. And when you make a school, how do you play with it?
- I. It is not finished yet.
- B. What is still missing?
- I. I must add a man. He must stand upright and so I fix him with some tape. Then I fix to this figure a piece of cardboard so that I can move him.
- B. Who is this man?
- I. He is the school guardian.
- B. You also make pupils?
- I. No.
- B. You never played with dolls?
- I. My little sister does.
- B. Your sister doesn't play with the things you make?
- I. No.
- B. So your sisters play with dolls and you play with all this you make yourself?
- I. Yes.
- B. If one gives you dolls you will play with them?
- I. Shakes no with his head.
- B. Why?
- I. Laughs and bows his head.
- B. Why don't you want to play with dolls?
- I. No answer.
- B. But tell me why?
- I. Continues laughing and says: I don't like them.
- B. And you Abdallah do you play with dolls?
- A. Shakes no with his head.
- B. Abdallah you can make things like your brother?
- A. Shakes no with his head.
- B. So, what is he doing here? Abdallah, you are making toys and he what is he doing?
- I. I am making the toys and everything I am making I give it to him to play.
- B. So, you only make toys and he only plays with them?
- B. Who taught you to make those things?
- I. I myself.
- B. In school they teach you to make such things and to play with them?
- I. Shakes no with his head.
- B. Your sisters they don't like to play with the things you make?
- I. Yes they play with them. They also know how to make certain things and my older brother also knows how to make them.
- B. Your older brother is helping you sometimes?
- I. No he doesn't help me. I make things alone and he makes things alone.
- B. You always play on this spot?
- I. I also play inside my house.
- B. I see here these big scissors. Are they yours?
- I. No I got them from the neighbors.

- B. Each time you ask for these scissors they give them?  
 I. No only for today.
- B. When you don't have these scissors what are you doing?  
 I. I have small scissors.
- B. Do you like it that we are filming you today?  
 I. Shakes yes with his head.
- B. When you finish making the toys and gave them to Abdallah do they stay a long time with him?  
 I. No regularly he breaks them when playing as he doesn't know how to manipulate them well.

## **VIDEO 2 – CONSTRUCTION PLAY IN SIDI IFNI, 02.02.2002**

### **Interview with Bilal, the father of Ilyas and Abdallah, by Boubaker Daoumani**

First interview recorded on mini-audiocassette, taking place in the house prior to the video filming.  
 Second interview recorded on the video's first 3 minutes.

These interviews offer the following information on the player's family:

- The forty-year-old mother has done some years of primary school and helps her children with their school exercises
- The father Bilal works on a big fishing-boat and is away from home for months. He obtained a diploma of electrician for ships at a Spanish school in Sidi Ifni.
- This family belongs to the Ait Bamraan Amazigh and is from Sidi Ifni.
- According to their father, the players sometimes speak Tashelhit. During this play activity they speak Moroccan Arabic.
- This family has seven children, a girl being the youngest one and the older boys are at work.

These interviews offer the following information on these children's play and pastimes:

- According to his father, Ilyas finds the inspiration to make the toys in his own imagination: "when he starts to make toys he just makes what comes to his mind".
- Satellite TV is available in this home and during the school vacations these boys can watch TV regularly. The father says that when they go to school TV watching is being limited.
- When asked if TV helps Ilyas to make such toys, the father answers "maybe a little".
- On a question about the players imitating their father's occupations, the father replies that the children always want to play something different.
- The children decide what toys they make and they also look for the needed material themselves.
- The children are free to play during vacations but when they must go to school little time is given for playing. "When it's school time, it is school (that is important). When it's play time they (can) play".
- Question: do you think these games and (self-made) toys are useful for them in relation to their schooling? Father's reply: yes, this helps them a lot.

At the end of the interview recorded at the beginning of the video, the father is questioned about his studies and his ideas on his school time and that of his children:

- The father has been to the Spanish school (between 1934 and 1969 Sidi Ifni was a Spanish enclave).
- As main difference between the Spanish school he visited and the Moroccan school of today he mentions craft teaching such as woodworker or mechanic and the availability of a place to play, both lacking in the Moroccan school. He also indicates that when he studied parents were invited at school when their children did not make their homework and that schoolbooks are too expensive nowadays.