Early Childhood Education and Care: A Sociocultural Approach celebrates the ideas of children, families and teachers. Drawn from research conducted with preschool teachers from the City of Casey, Victoria, this book highlights how sociocultural theory can be used in practice. The City of Casey has one of the highest populations of children aged 0-4 in Australia. In a commitment to best practice, the City of Casey Managed Kindergartens embarked on a research project to develop new understandings of children's development. This book traces the development of this project and, through teacher examples and commentary, shows how ideas from sociocultural theory can be and are realised in practice. This text provides a strong introduction to the key ideas emerging from sociocultural theory. It is suitable for students, trainee teachers and practitioners interested in extending their thinking around key approaches to early childhood education and care, including observations, and programming and planning.

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Curricula in early childhood care and education (ECCE) (or early childhood curriculum) address the role and importance of curricula in the education of young children, and is the driving force behind any ECCE programme. It is ‘an integral part of the engine that, together with the energy and motivation of staff, provides the momentum that makes programmes live’. It follows therefore that the quality of a programme is greatly influenced by the quality of its curriculum. In early childhood, these may be Early Childhood Education and Care in Norway: Cultural historical context, new regulations and perceived quality (Alicja R. Sadownik & Elin Eriksen Ødegaard) 13. Early Childhood Education and Care in Russia: Different contexts of the cultural-historical theory Igor Shiyan, Olga Shiyan, Alexander Veraksa & Nikolay Veraksa 14. Early Childhood Education and Care in Serbia: Current challenges and policies (Tijana Bogovac) 15. Early Childhood Education and Care in Singapore: Aspiring for holistic early learning (Sivanes Phillipson, Eugenia Koh, Salwa Sujuddin & Sharmini Mohamed Sharif) Social entrepreneurship in Early Childhood Education. Children with special educational needs. Global challenges in Early Childhood Education. Pandemic’s impact on the emotional world of children and adults. Digitalization in today’s childhood: Cultural and historical approach. Play in today’s childhood — A leading activity? News and announcements. Sociocultural theory, also known as social constructivism or socioculturalism, is defined by educational scholars as: Nagel (2012, p. 83) argues that sociocultural theory “reflects the view that learning and development is not just a process of increased mental sophistication but is also mediated through social and cultural interactions.” Sociocultural theorists believe that learning happens as a result of social interactions and takes place within a specific cultural environment (Bates, 2019; Leonard, 2002; Nagel, 2012). Scholarly Citations in APA Style for the above Sources: Bates, B.