

13. 遊びを通して学ぶこと (1)：構造理解

When we watch kittens and puppies playing,

we realize that through play they are learning how to live.

They learn various physical skills, such as how to jump over barriers without getting hurt.

They also learn social interaction.

For example, if a kitten bites his sister too hard, she will get angry and bite him back.

These physical and social skills form part of the training that young animals need in order to grow up.

Just as kittens and puppies learn about how to live through play, so do children.

But in present-day Japan, especially in cities, there is not much space for children to play in.

Children need to release their energy for their mental and physical health.

They need space, especially outdoors, so that they can run, jump, and yell.

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