Desktop research

Desktop research is a method of collecting already produced data. You can collect this kind of data from different places — on the internet and at libraries etc.

I choose the research the area "Lego used in the context of children's learning". Firstly, I googled the subject and found different links and webpages telling about how you can include Lego in children's learning process. After browsing around, I found a PDF-file from The Lego Foundation.

In here they're explaining that learning through play empowers children to become creative, engaged and lifelong learners. Many children face stress, poverty and conflict; therefore, they need positive experiences and coping skills to handle negative factors in their lives. The PDF summarizes current evidence on the role and importance of children's learning through play. Through active play and engagement with ideas and knowledge, children are preparing to deal with the reality of tomorrow. Learning through play supports children's healthy development and their ability to learn.

A webpage told me 10 different skills children learn by playing with Lego.

- 1. Children learning fine motor skills by building machines with Lego.
- 2. Cooperative play between the children playing
- 3. The feeling of accomplishment after finishing a Lego project
- 4. Not giving up even though bricks are falling apart
- 5. Solving puzzles and problems
- 6. Helps children understand the science behind creating an idea and developing it
- 7. Technology behind completing a simple task with Lego
- 8. Engineering ideas that work
- 9. Boosting children's creativity
- 10. Helping children with understanding math

Many sources believes that Lego is an excellent toy to give children a positive experience with learning and understanding problem-solving in general.

Observation research

Observation research is a way of collecting data by observing a setting and afterwards describing and interpreting the collected data.

I choose a Burger King restaurant as my setting for this project. I sat in a booth, not that far away from the queue so I could observe the queue's movement. While sitting there I observed people entering the location and forming a line at the cashier waiting to place an order. Some people just took the food and left and others found a place to sit and eat their food. Some people tried to skip the line and other followed the queue. Small children were playing around with strollers in the restaurant.

Throughout the 30 minutes I sat there I noticed many different types of people entering the restaurant but mostly younger people. Some people are in groups and others are by themselves. The queue consisted of 5-10 people at all times and the co-workers didn't really have any face expression.

The environment and restaurant were very chill except the queue area. The queue and kitchen area were very busy and fast moving. In the background music from speakers was playing and people are talking to each other. The atmosphere was friendly and children were running around the restaurant and playing. There was a strong smell of fried foods.

Some people are talking to each other and some people are alone. While I was there I saw an interaction between two guests of the restaurant. One man handed a toy bunny to another family with children.



Interview

In an interview you're collecting data by having a sometimes structured conversation with another person. An interview involves an interviewer, who's coordinating the whole process and how they want the interview to proceed, and an interviewee who responds to the questions asked.

First, I chose to interview my friend Natasha about Social Media: what they use most and what it gives them in everyday life. I made some open questions and some "in-depth"-questions as a guide line for my interview. I was very aware of writing questions you're able to give a good explanation without answering yes or no. We sat down at a café and I made her feel comfortable and did some small talk before the interview.



Key insights

- Spend a lot of time on social media
- Like to share stuff with friends and family
- Use it a lot to connect with other people
- Use social media when bored
- Catching up with world news through social media
- Easier access to world news
- Forgetting to live in the present and enjoy moments

Quotes

- "Every time I don't know what to do, I scroll through social media"
- "If I didn't have social media I would feel like I'm missing something"

Survey

The survey method is a way of collecting data by making a list of formal questionnaires. A lot of the questions asked is closed questions where you have a multiple choice but it's also possible to expand your answers with a small text.

I was investigating the topic "Finding friends in Denmark" and I asked a lot of questions about how international students meet new people and the challenges they face. From my survey I found out that most of the respondents only has had good experiences with moving to Denmark and starting a study. But there's a few people who has experienced Danes being rude and not wanting to communicate in English. A lot of respondents have met new people by starting an education, meeting friend's friends, community events and colleagues. But a resource missing is an friendship app where people can connect and possibly meet up and meet new people and start friendships. Thee most surprisng part was that even though they have similar demographic, they face many different conflicts and difficulties when finding friends.





