



# From Stimuland to Switzerland

some things about Early Childhood Environments

About the “deep spatial silence” or “spatial unconsciousness” in  
education (Fisher, 2003)

--

# Some images



# Some topics

- What is/makes a class and what does this say about learning? (Pedagogy of space and place, cooperative education)
- What is the relationship between classroom design/materials and creativity, (deep) learning, experimenting and playing of young children? (Environmental/experiential pedagogy)
- What are consequences of calling a classroom a “learning environment”, a “home” or a “prison”? (Critical pedagogy, discourse)
- What makes a classroom for ‘every child’? (Universal Design for Learning, participation, children’s rights, well-being, involvement)

# Some questions

- Get in touch? If there are lecturers at your institution interested in this subject, would you be so kind to send us their contacts (mail...)?
- Compare/enrich? Could you motivate your Erasmus students to bring materials (pictures, plans, drawings, books...) of local Early Childhood Environments to Mechelen?
- Enrich/compare?: We ask our outgoing ECE students to obtain information and materials (pictures, pedagogical insights, interviews,...) on Early Childhood Environments in their guest country. Would you be so kind to help them out?

# Some contacts

- Sarah Coorevits
  - [Sarah.Coorevits@thomasmore.be](mailto:Sarah.Coorevits@thomasmore.be)
- Piet Tutenel
  - [Piet.Tutenel@thomasmore.be](mailto:Piet.Tutenel@thomasmore.be)

# Some literature

- Clark, A. (2007). *Early childhood spaces: Involving young children and practitioners in the design process*. Working Paper 45. The Hague, The Netherlands: Bernard van Leer Foundation.
- Fisher, K. (2003), *Linking Pedagogy and Space*, DEECD, Melbourne.
- Higgins, S. et al. (2005), *The Impact of School Environments: A Literature Review*, The Centre for Learning and Teaching School of Education, Communication and Language Science, University of Newcastle, Australia.
- Hutchison, D. C. (2004). *A Natural History of Place in Education*. Advances in Contemporary Educational Thought Series. Ontario: Teachers College Press.
- Luckin, R. (2010), *Redesigning Learning Contexts: Technology-rich, Learner-centred Ecologies*, Routledge, London.
- Masschelein, J. & Simons, M. (2012), “The architecture of the learning environment, A school without a soul”, *OASE*, 72(3), pp. 6-13.
- Morgan, J. (2000), “Critical pedagogy: the spaces that make the difference”, *Pedagogy, Culture and Society*, Vol. 8, No. 3, pp. 273-289.
- Paechter, C. et al. (2001), *Learning, Space and Identity*, London: Paul Chapman.