




Social Stages of Play

  	Sensorimotor Play	<p>The child uses all their senses to explore items. They look at, touch, smell, lick and shake things.</p>	
	Organising Play	<p>The child has not yet worked out the purpose of items but does begin to group and line them up.</p>	
	Functional Play	<p>The child has discovered the purpose of items and begins to use them in accordance with their basic function.</p>	
	Pretend Play	Functional Imaginative	<p>The child starts to use resources functionally, often representing real life experiences, for example, talking on the phone, feeding the baby.</p>
		Representational	<p>The child uses one object to represent another, for example a banana is used as a telephone, a bowl is used as a cup.</p>
		Symbolic	<p>The child applies real life experiences and qualities to their play for example giving the baby doll a name and creating scenarios such as: the baby is ill and needs medicine/ is going to the doctors, they car is dirty and is going to the car wash/ has broken down.</p>

Source: Scottish Autism.org