



Play Differences Between Urban and Rural Children: Exploring the Impact on Creative Thinking (ID: 1054)

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Introduction

Creativity is not an exceptional achievement.



Myth: Big-C Creativity

Often perceived as a rare gift reserved for artistic person or geniuses.



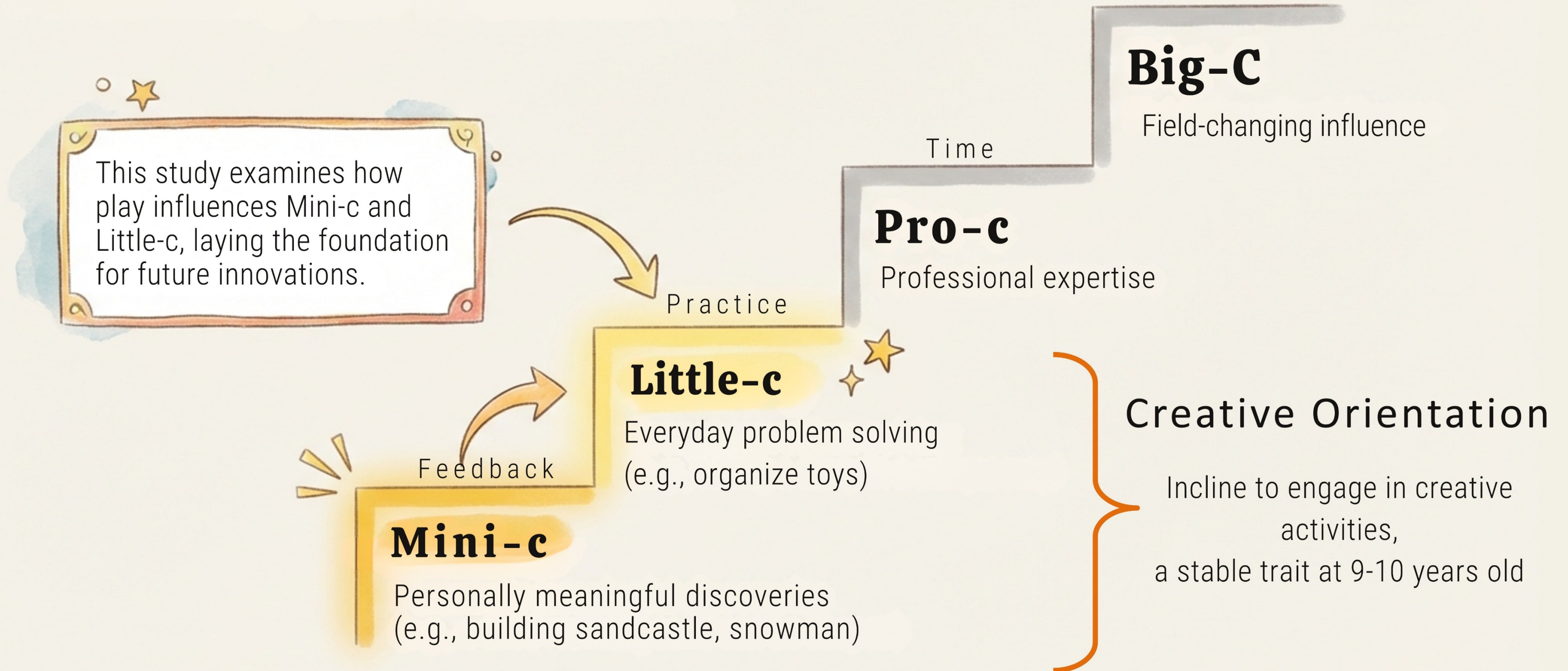
Reality: Everyday Innovation

A survival skill embedded in daily encounters.
It is about thinking out of the box and problem solving.

(Kaufman and Beghetto 2009)

The 4C Model of Creativity:

(Kaufman and Beghetto 2009)



Research Question

What is the role of play in children's creative orientation?

Research Objectives

- 1) To explore children's play **interest**.
- 2) To explore **types of play** that develops creative orientation.
- 3) To explore the **environmental context** contributing to creative orientation.

Study Location



East Coast Malaysia: Kelantan
Urbanization: 44.1% (Lowest countrywide)
Rural Population: 63.9%



Culturally rich:
Strong **traditions** and
community bonds.



Social Dynamics:
Children play in
mixed-age groups
with neighbors.



Environment:
Nature-rich and less
structured.

Instruments



TOP

Test of Playfulness
(How playful is the child?)



TOES

Test of Environmental
Supportiveness
(Does the space allow play?)



MCP

My Child's Play
(Parental perspective)



CCOT: Artistic

Children Creative
Orientation Test
(Tendency toward creative
activities)

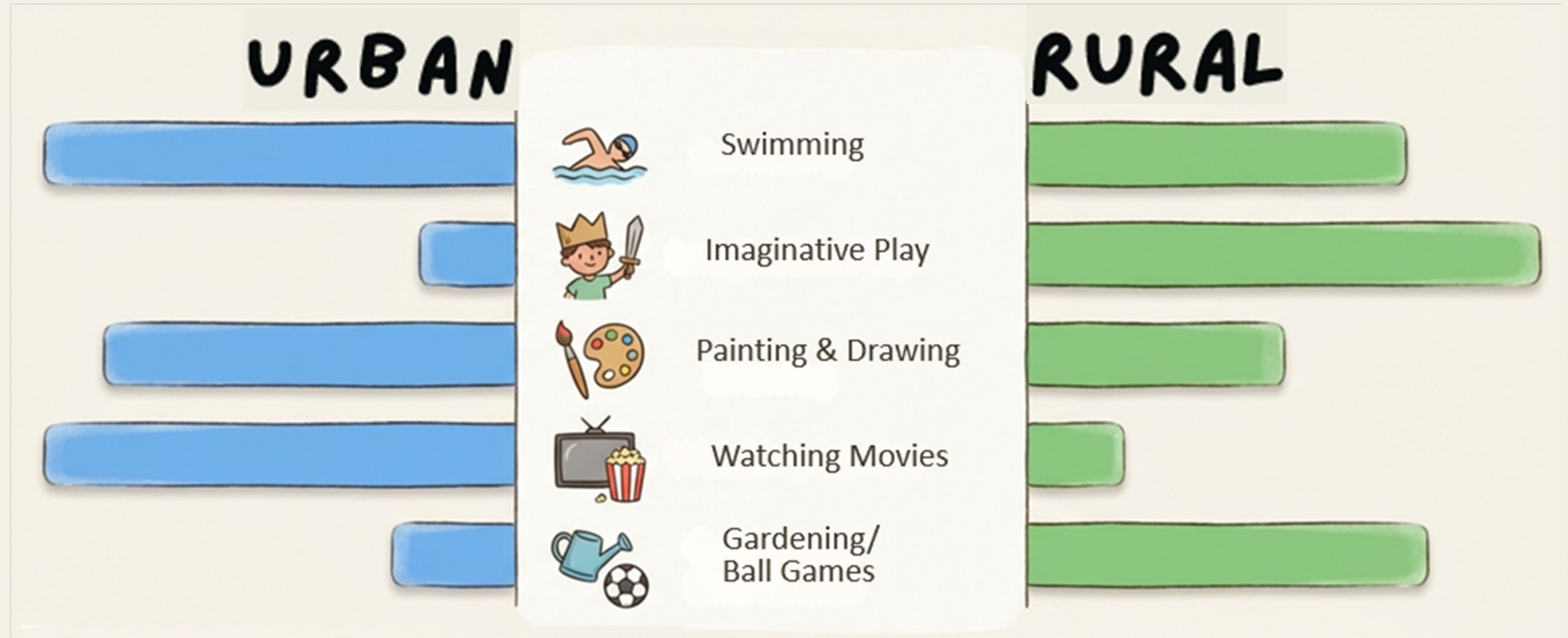
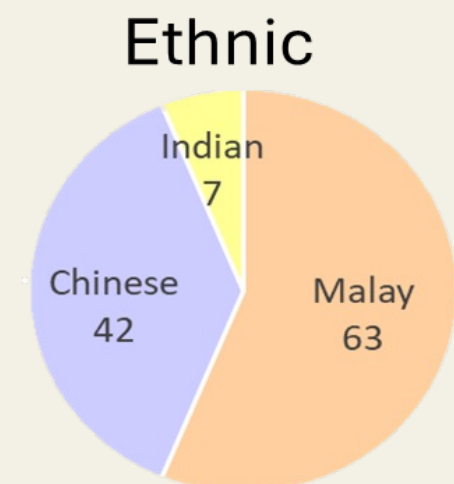
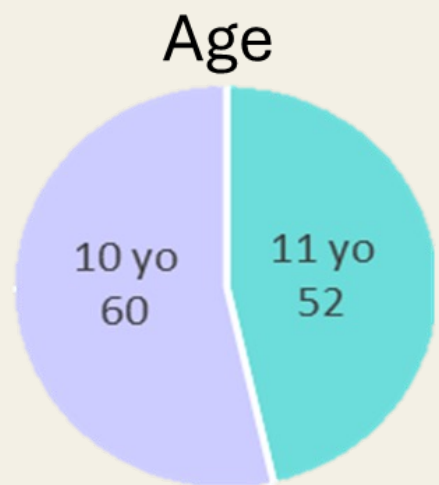
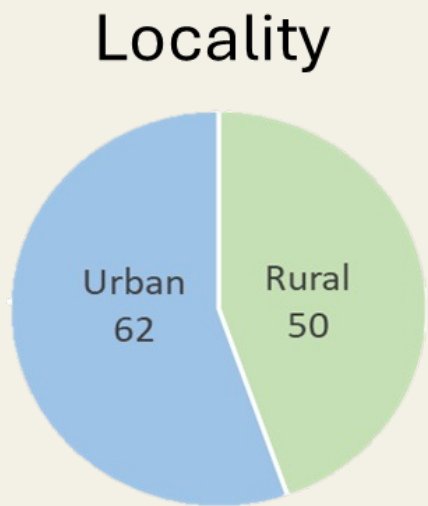
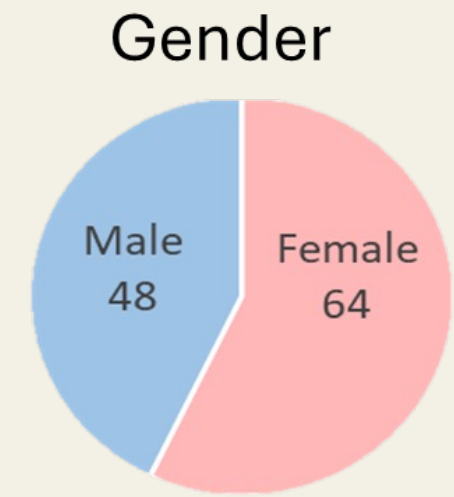
Overall, I am pleased with the way
my child plays.

In daily routine there is time allocated
for playing with my child.



Findings

Children's interest



80% of elementary school children favour **digital play** as a hobby.

My Child's Play

Parents' perception towards play

Urban Parents

Prioritize **academic** achievement and structured **extracurricular** classes. Play is secondary.



(3.913) (4.165)

*Significant differences at $p < 0.05$.

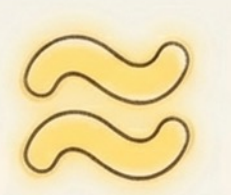
Rural Parents

Support outdoor play and **social** interaction. Children have autonomy in the **neighborhood**.



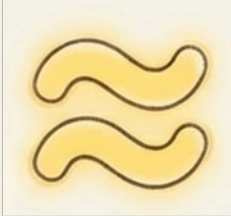
In Actual Scenario

Playfulness
(TOP)

Urban (129.7)  Rural (129.5)

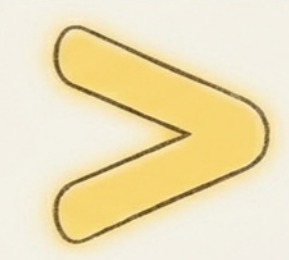
No significant difference.

Environmental Support
(TOES)

Urban (1.64)  Rural (1.55)

No significant difference.

Creative Orientation
(CCOT)

Rural Score (16.28)  Urban Score (15.44)

If urban & rural children are equally playful, where is the gap?

Play Context
Rural play requires **negotiation**, **inventing rules** and use **dynamic objects**, leads to higher creative potential.

Quality > Quantity



High 'Playfulness' scores do not guarantee high creativity. The **capacity to play** is universal; but the result of play depends on the **context**.

Implications

Home: Create play contexts that are more **diverse** and less structured.

School: **Find a balance** between academic and play-based learning.

Everyone: Encourage playfulness.
Look out for 'Mini-c'.



Play is not 'just play'

It is a powerful resource!

References

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Thank You!

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