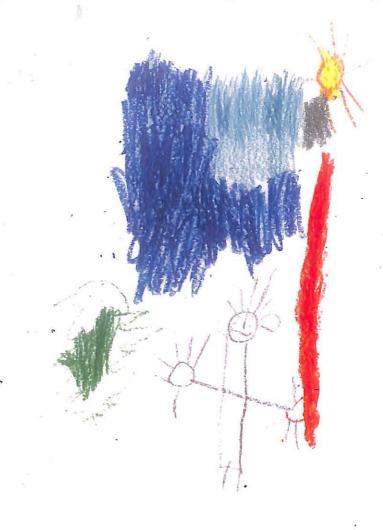
Copyright is owned by the Author of the thesis. Permission is given for a copy to be downloaded by an individual for the purpose of research and private study only. The thesis may not be reproduced elsewhere without the permission of the Author.



The World Makers: One Centre's approach to Technology Education with Infants and Toddlers.

LB1140.25 N5 M888 W

Anita Mortlock

## Contents

List of figuresl
List of figures
Abstract
Chapter One 2 Introduction
Introduction
Literature review
Chapter Two
Methods: 13 Sample and research population
Sample and research population
Data collection strategies
Ethical Considerations
Limitations
Chapter Three
Findings:
The technology education context  Defining 'technology education'
Defining 'technology education
The 'teacher-as-technologist
The physical environment
The temporal environment
The interpersonal environment
Finding interests and developing discounted 29
Children's Exploration of the design
Self-directed exploration
Free exploration & guided exploration 33
Technology and exploration of the fiving 34
Exploration of structures and incommendation billion 35
Exploration of structures and mechanisms
Skills
A ffordance
Problem solving43
Communication and technology
Communicating intentionality44
Communicating intentionality
Communicating technological ideas through symbols
Chapter Four
Conclusions 48
Conclusions The technology interests, understandings and capabilities
The technology interests, understandings and capabilities 49  Documentation and assessments 49
Documentation and assessments
Teacher responses
Suggestions for further research54 Concluding statement
Appendices
Appendices contents list
Appendices
Appendices

## The World Makers: One Centre's

## Approach to Technology Education with Infants and Toddlers.

## Anita Mortlock

Infants and toddlers are surrounded by technology. They observe and explore technological artefacts and the uses of them on a daily basis. Despite this, there is little research to guide teachers about what the technological interests, understandings and capabilities of infants and toddlers might be and how they might be supported and extended. Technology education is a relatively new curriculum area and it has not yet been included in the literary discourse about infant and toddler educational programmes. This study aims to examine what the teachers at one childcare centre identify as the technology interests, understandings and capabilities of a small group of infants and toddlers. Video footage was taken of the infants and toddlers at work and play and segments were then shown to individual teachers during interviews. The children's assessment portfolios were examined and the teachers and families were invited to contribute further information. The sum total of this data was used to analyse and reflect on particular episodes of video footage. The technological interests, understandings and capabilities of both the children and the adults were seen to be integrally linked to the temporal, physical and interpersonal environments of the centre.

Anita Mortlock 2004