

Historical Figure Profile

Melanie Klein



Six Word Memoir

I observed children playing-out their anxieties.

Symbols

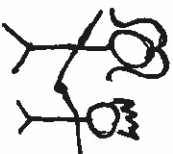


Play/Play Therapy

Children



Mocker-Child Relationship



Debate w/ A. Freud



Quote

"One of the many interesting and surprising experiences of the beginner in child analysis is to find in even very young children a capacity for insight which is often far greater than that of adults."

Fast Facts

- Helped develop "play therapy" and "object relations."
- Discovered that children communicate through play.
- Disagreed with Anna Freud about whether children could be psychoanalyzed.
- Didn't have formal degree.

Historical Importance/Contributions in Psychology

- Showed that children could be psychoanalyzed.
- She found that "play" was a symbolic way children controlled anxiety.
- Used "object-relations" theory in relation to ego development. Children relate to parts vs complete objects.
- Major contributor to the development and expansion of "play therapy" and developmental psychology.
- Kleinian Psychoanalysis is one of the major schools of thought in their field of psychoanalysis.