Redshirting

Giving a child more time to prepare for kindergarten may actually be detrimental to the child, especially if multiple risk factors exist.

Time is not the only component affecting a child’s development. The experiences a child receives at home, in the community and in other early learning settings are integral to overall success.

Utilizing developmentally appropriate practice in the kindergarten classroom may be more advantageous to the child’s long-term development and academic success than redshirting.

Definition

Redshirting is the term used when the decision is made to hold a child back one year before starting kindergarten, allegedly to give them the “gift of time.”

(Phillips and Scrinzi, 2013)