Finding Aid to the Vivian Gussin Paley Papers, 1973-2010

Summary Information
Title: Vivian Gussin Paley papers
Creator: Vivian Gussin Paley (primary)
ID: 110.3279
Date: 1973–2010
Extent: approx. 5.5 linear feet
Language: All materials are in English unless otherwise noted.
Abstract: The Vivian Gussin Paley papers are a compilation of correspondence, publications, awards, articles, and books written by and/or used by Vivian Gussin Paley.
Repository:
Brian Sutton-Smith Library and Archives of Play at The Strong
One Manhattan Square
Rochester, New York 14607
585.263.2700
library@museumofplay.org

Administrative Information
Conditions Governing Access and Use: This collection is open to research use by staff of The Strong and by users of its library and archives. The donor has unconditionally given the papers to The Strong. Intellectual property rights for published books are retained by Harvard University Press and the University of Chicago Press.
Custodial History: The Vivian Gussin Paley Papers were donated to The Strong as gifts of Vivian Gussin Paley. The papers were accessioned by the museum on May 2010, as Object IDs 110.3279 and 110.3280, July 2010, as Object ID 110.9428, and October 2010, as Object IDs 110.12195 and 110.12196.
Preferred citation for publication: Vivian Gussin Paley papers, Brian Sutton-Smith Library and Archives of Play at The Strong
Processed by: Doris C. Sturzenberger and Carol Sandler, 2010
Revision Note: Finding aid updated to reflect passing of Vivian Paley, July 2019.

Controlled Access Terms
Subjects
- Child development
- Early childhood education
- Fantasy in children
- Play--Social aspects
- Preschool children
- Preschool teaching
- Social interaction in children

Personal Names
- Paley, Vivian Gussin, 1929–2019
Biographical Note
Vivian Gussin Paley (1929-2019) was a noted preschool and kindergarten teacher and early childhood education researcher. She taught and did most of her research at the University of Chicago Laboratory Schools. She was the recipient of a MacArthur Fellowship and authored thirteen books.

Paley was born in 1929 in Chicago. She earned a Bachelor of Philosophy degree from the University of Chicago in 1947 and a B.A. in Psychology from Newcomb College in 1950. She then taught in New Orleans and later in Great Neck, New York. After receiving her M.A. from Hofstra University in 1962, she returned to Chicago where she remained for the rest of her teaching career.

Paley’s books contained her observations of and reflections about her classroom and students, primarily those at the University of Chicago Laboratory Schools where she taught preschool and kindergarten for many years. To collect data, Paley made audio-recordings of her classrooms so that she could listen to and analyze the interactions that occurred. In so doing, she heard private conversations among children that helped her think about the ways young children communicate with each other. She used what she discovered to improve her teaching and children’s lives. Paley’s writings focused primarily on three major areas of concern she saw in children: fantasy, friendship, and fairness. Many educators believed that Paley’s greatest legacy is in the area of storytelling and fantasy play, which she argued could significantly impact a child’s academic and social growth.

Paley passed away on July 26, 2019.

Biographical Sources:
Collection Scope and Content Note
This set of papers consists of some correspondence and numerous clippings related to Vivian Gussin Paley’s published works, along with articles by and about Paley; items related to conferences, workshops, and symposia; autographed books; audio-visual materials related to interviews and presentations made by Vivian Gussin Paley; and foreign-language editions of her books.

The papers have been divided into the following series:
- Series 1: Books
- Series 2: Articles
- Series 3: Conferences
- Series 4: Awards
- Series 5: Correspondence
- Series 6: Autographed Books
- Series 7: Audio-Visual Materials Related to Interviews and Presentations
- Series 8: Foreign-Language Editions
Contents List and Series Descriptions

Series Number: 1

Series Title: Books

Series Dates: 1976–2010

Series Quantity: 15 ½ inches

Series Arrangement: By book title

Series Scope and Content Note:
This series contains a small amount of correspondence and many clippings related to Vivian Gussin Paley’s thirteen books. The correspondence is generally from Paley’s publishers or from friends and colleagues. Clippings are book reviews, articles, and listings from various newspapers, journals, and magazines. At the end of the series are publishers’ catalogs and flyers listing more than one book.

Series Container/Folder List:
Box 1:
Bad Guys Don’t Have Birthdays: Fantasy Play at Four
- Correspondence, 1986–1988, 2005
- Book cover
- Reviews and listings, 1987–1991
  - University of Chicago Press review list, January 18, 1987
  - College Store Executive, November 1, 1987
  - Publishers Weekly, January 29, 1988
  - Chicago Tribune, February 9, 1988
  - Booklist, February 15, 1988
  - Education Digest, March 1988
  - Education Week, April 6, 1988
  - Evansville Press, April 29, 1988
  - Sage Family Studies Abstracts, May 1988
  - Los Angeles Times Book Review, May 1, 1988
  - Washington Post, May 26, 1988
  - Play and Culture, August 1988
  - Psychology Today, November 1988
  - Teachers College Record, Fall 1990
  - Publishers Weekly, January 24, 1991
  - University of Chicago Press, n.d.
The Boy On the Beach: Building Community Through Play
- Correspondence, 2010
- Reviews and listings, 2010
  - 57th Street Books, April 13, 2010

The Boy Who Would Be a Helicopter: The Uses of Storytelling in the Classroom
- Author photo (negative) for book cover
- Reviews and listings, 1990–1992
  - Washington Post, April 26, 1990
  - Chicago Tribune, April 29, 1990
  - Chicago Sun-Times, June 24, 1990
  - Kansas City Star, June 24, 1990
  - Living Room Learning, Summer 1990
  - Brown University Child Behavior and Development Letter, September 1990
  - Perspectives, September/October 1990
  - Choice, October 1990
  - Times Educational Supplement, November 16, 1990
  - Storytelling, Fall 1990
  - Education Digest, December 1990
  - National Association for the Preservation and Perpetuation of Storytelling, Catalog, 1991
  - Whole Earth Review, Summer 1991
  - American Bookseller, September 1991
  - Chicago Tribune, December 15, 1991
  - Times Educational Supplement, December 18 and December 25, 1992
  - Harvard University Press, n.d.
  - Unknown source, n.d.

Boys and Girls: Superheroes in the Doll Corner
- Correspondence, 1983–1985
- Millsaps College, Friday Forum, March 29, 1985
• Extract by Paley from Boys and Girls, n.d.
• Reviews and listings, 1984–1989
  o Publishers Weekly, August 1984
  o Kirkus Reviews, August 1, 1984
  o Reader: Chicago’s Free Weekly, August 3, 1984
  o American Sociology Association program, September 1984
  o Booklist, September 1, 1984
  o Child Development, October 1984
  o Hyde Park Herald, October 10, 1984
  o American Journal of Education, November 1984
  o Elementary School Journal, November 1984
  o 2 Ms., November 1984
  o Education Week, early November 1984
  o Education Week, November 21, 1984
  o Contemporary Psychology, December 1984
  o Vanguard Press, December 1984
  o Women’s Review of Books, December 1984
  o Roanoke Times & World-News, December 2, 1984
  o Tulanian, Winter 1984
  o Signs, Winter 1984/1985
  o Choice, January 1985
  o Elementary School Journal, January 1985
  o Society, January 1985
  o Young Children, January 1985
  o Comparative Education Review, February 1985
  o Birmingham News, February 24, 1985
  o NEA Today, March 1985
  o Psychology Today, March 1985
  o Social Service Review, March 1985
  o AERA program, Spring 1985
  o Feminist Studies, Spring 1985
  o Child Welfare, May/June 1985
  o London Times Higher Educational Supplement, August 2, 1985
  o Language Arts, September 1985
  o Library Materials Guide, Fall 1985
  o Unitarian Universalist World, December 15, 1985
  o University of Chicago Magazine, Winter 1985
  o Preschool Perspectives, March 1986
  o Interchange, Spring 1986
  o Los Angeles Times Book Review, August 17, 1986
  o Winterthur Portfolio, Summer/Autumn 1986
  o Teachers College Record, Fall 1986
  o KLIATT, January 1987
  o British Journal of Developmental Psychology, September 1987
  o Play & Culture, February 1988
Detroit Free Press, March 8, 1989
Homewood Star, October 5, 1989
Journal of Teacher Education, November/December, n.y.
New Society, n.d.
Unknown source, n.d.

A Child’s Work: The Importance of Fantasy Play
- Correspondence, 2004–2007
- University of Chicago Press advertising brochure, 2005
- Vivian Gussin Paley topics course, 2005
- Reviews and listings, 2004–2005
  - Family Networker, Spring 2004
  - TES, May 7, 2004
  - Highland Park Pioneer Press, May 13, 2004
  - Nursery World, May 13, 2004
  - TES, May 14, 2004
  - Chicago Tribune, May 30, 2004
  - San Francisco Chronicle Book Review, May 30, 2004
  - Young Children, July 2004
  - Chicago Tribune, August 29, 2004
  - Unknown source, “Faculty Notes,” Summer 2004
  - LABDirections, September 2004
  - Young Children, November 2004
  - Chicago Tribune, November 17, 2004
  - Chicago Tribune, November 24, 2004
  - Louisiana Infant Mental Health Association (LIMHA) Newsletter, March 2005
  - American Journal of Education, May 2005
  - Elementary School Journal, May 2005
  - Progressive, July 2005
  - Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis, Summer 2005
  - AERA, 2005 program
  - Unknown source, “Faculty Notes,” n.d.
  - Unknown source, n.d.
  - University of Chicago web page, n.d.

The Girl with the Brown Crayon: How Children Use Stories to Shape Their Lives
- “An Irresistible Urge to Make Things,” commencement address by Leo Lionni delivered in May 1991, to the graduating class at the Cooper Union; reprinted for the fifth of May, 2000 celebration of Leo Lionni’s life and work
- Paley review of Leo Lionni’s autobiography, Nation, June 2, 1997 [with drafts]
- 2 photographic prints and negatives, “Inch by Inch by Leo Lionni,” and “The Alphabet Tree by Leo Lionni,” n.d.
- Reviews and listings, 1996–1999
  - Kirkus Reviews, December 19, 1996, and January 1, 1997
- Chicago Tribune Magazine, January 5, 1997
- American Bookseller, February 1997
- The Museletter, February 1997
- Booklist, February 15, 1997
- Publishers Weekly, February 17, 1997
- Young Children, March 1997
- San Jose Mercury News, March 9, 1997
- Los Angeles Times Book Review, April 27, 1997
- [?] Monthly, June 1997
- Working Mother, June 1997
- Parents, August 1997
- Door County Advocate, August 19, 1997
- New Yorker, October 6, 1997
- Independent School, Fall 1997
- Chicago Tribune, November 9, 1997
- Child, December/January 1998
- Book Links, May 1998
- Boston Sunday Globe, August 2, 1998
- Teaching and Learning Literature, September/October 1998
- Teach, Fall 1998
- The Association for the Study of Play Newsletter, Winter 1998
- Click, March 1999
- Reading Teacher, April 1999
Series Container/Folder List:

Box 2:
In Mrs. Tully’s Room: A Child-Care Portrait

- Correspondence, 2001
- Preface for Taiwan edition, n.d.
- Reviews and listings, 2001–2003
  - Publishers Weekly, September 17, 2001
  - Times Educational Supplement, November 2, 2001
  - Chicago Tribune, November 4, 2001
  - Times Educational Supplement, June 13, 2003

The Kindness of Children

- Correspondence, 1998–2000
- Book cover
- Reviews and listings, 1999–2001
  - Kirkus Reviews, February 15, 1999
  - Library Journal, March 15, 1999
  - Newsweek, March 22, 1999
  - Los Angeles Times Book Review, March 29, 1999
  - L. A. Parent, April 1999
  - University of Chicago Magazine, April 1999
  - New York Times Book Review, April 4, 1999
  - Chicago Sun-Times, April 11, 1999
  - Salon, April 14, 1999
  - Fair Haven Public Schools, April 16, 1999
  - Chicago Tribune, April 18, 1999
  - Spirituality & Health, April 22, 1999
  - This American Life, April 26, 1999
  - Boston Globe, April 29, 1999
  - University of Chicago Chronicle, May 27, 1999
  - Teacher Magazine, May/June 1999
  - Times Educational Supplement, June 4, 1999
  - hipMama, June 14, 1999
  - Nashville Tennessean, July 18, 1999
  - Parents, August 1999
  - Therapist, Summer 1999
  - AEYC of WNY, September/October 1999
  - NYSAEYC Reporter, Fall 1999
  - Under the Oaks, Fall 1999
  - Jewish Exponent, November 4, 1999
  - Early Childhood Education, Fall/Winter 1999
  - Parents, December 1999
  - School Library Journal, December 1999
  - Chicago Tribune, April 16, 2000
Kwanzaa and Me: A Teacher’s Story
- Correspondence, 1994–1995
- Reviews and listings, 1994–1996
  - Unknown source, September 19, 1994
  - Publishers Weekly, January 16, 1995
  - Detroit Free Press, February 26, 1995
  - New York Times Book Review, March 5, 1995
  - Hartford Advocate, March 16, 1995
  - Education Digest, April 1995
  - Lab Directions, April 1995
  - New York Times, April 9, 1995
  - Isthmus, April 28, 1995
  - CenterPiece (Center for Education, Rice University), Spring 1995
  - Harvard University Press, Spring 1995
  - Brown University Child and Adolescent Behavior Letter, May 1995
  - Teacher, May/June 1995
  - Times Educational Supplement, June 9, 1995
  - Chicago Tribune Magazine, June 25, 1995
  - Chicago Tribune, July 30, 1995
  - Instructor, July/August 1995
  - Play, Policy, & Practice Connections, Summer 1995
  - Choice, September 1995
  - Teaching Tolerance, Fall 1995
  - Council for Religion in Independent Schools (CRIS) Newsletter, December 5, 1995
  - Unknown source, 1995
  - Lab Notes, ca. 1995
  - Educational Administration Abstracts, April 1996

Mollie is Three: Growing up in School
- Correspondence, 1985–1988
- Reviews and listings, 1985–1988
  - Beginnings, Winter 1985
  - University of Chicago Press, 1986
  - AERA program, March 1986
  - Reader: Chicago’s Free Weekly, March 28, 1986
  - Publishers Weekly, April 18, 1986
o Booklist, May 1, 1986
o Library Journal, May 1, 1986
o Boston Globe, May 9, 1986
o Psychology Today, June 1986
o Chicago, August 1986
o Harvard Educational Review, August 1986
o Hammond Times, August 24, 1986
o British Journal of Developmental Psychology, 1987
o Hearing Rehabilitation Quarterly, 1987
o Young Children, January 1987
o Working Mother, February 1987
o American Journal of Education, May 1987
o Teaching Voices, November/December 1987
o Washington Post, December 3, 1987
o Day Care and Early Education, Winter 1987
o Qualitative Studies in Education, 1988
o Chicago Sunday Tribune, March 27, 1988
o AERA program, n.d.
 o American Psychological Association program, n.d.
 o Contemporary Psychology, n.d.
 o Elementary School Journal, n.d.
 o Hyde Park Herald, n.d.
 o Reader, n.d.
 o Society, n.d.
 o 3 unknown sources, n.d.

Wally’s Stories: Conversations in the Kindergarten
  • Correspondence, 1980–1988
  • Book cover
  • Reviews and listings, 1981–1988
    o Boston Sunday Globe, March 8, 1981
    o Rehabilitation Literature (National Easter Seal Society), May-June 1981
    o San Francisco Examiner, July 5, 1981
    o Times Literary Supplement, July 10, 1981
    o Teacher, July 17, 1981
    o Key Reporter, Summer 1981
    o London Sunday Times, December 6, 1981
    o University of Chicago Magazine, Winter 1981
    o Language Arts, February 1982
    o Elementary School Journal, May 1983
    o Washington Post, May 23, 1985
    o Reader: Chicago’s Free Weekly, March 28, 1986
    o Reading Teacher, April 1986
Youth Theatre Journal, Spring 1988
3 unknown sources, n.d.

White Teacher
- Correspondence, 1976–1987
- Book covers
- Preface, 2000
- Reviews and listings, 1979–2004
  - Publishers Weekly, January 8, 1979
  - Kirkus Reviews, January 15, 1979
  - Library Journal, May 15, 1979
  - New Republic, May 26, 1979
  - Worcester Sunday Telegram, May 27, 1979
  - Mennonite Publishing House book evaluation record, June 1979
  - Chicago Sun-Times, June 25, 1979
  - Booklist, July 15, 1979
  - Charlestown Gazette-Mail, July 15, 1979
  - Jackson Independent (Jonesboro, LA), July 19, 1979
  - Indianapolis News, July 21, 1979
  - Book Review Digest, August 1979
  - [Sentinel?], August 8, 1979
  - Indianapolis News, August 21, 1979
  - Key Reporter, Summer 1979
  - Adventures in Reading (Mass. Conference, United Church of Christ), September 1979
  - Choice, September 1979
  - Provident Book Finder, September-October 1979
  - Today’s Education, September-October 1979
  - Change, October 1979
  - Teacher, October 26, 1979
  - American Journal of Education, November 1979
  - Educational Researcher, November 1979
  - America, November 3, 1979
  - University of Chicago Bulletins, November 19–December 3, 1979
  - Unknown source, December 1979
  - Phi Delta Kappan, January 1980
  - Muncie Press, March 1, 1980
  - Dallas Morning News, May 4, 1980
  - Language Arts, January 1981
  - Elementary School Journal, May 1983
  - Education Digest, September 1989
  - NEA Today, September 1989
  - Hungry Mind Review, September-October 1990
Anti-Defamation League, A World of Difference Institute, January 1994
Chicago Tribune, March 5, 2000
Times Educational Supplement, April 14, 2000
Transcultural Psychiatry, September 2004
Roland Barth, Run School Run, n.d.
Sunday Examiner & Chronicle, n.d.
Young Children, n.d.
2 unknown sources, n.d.

You Can’t Say You Can’t Play

• Correspondence, 1992–1994
• Reviews and listings, 1992–2004
  o Publishers Weekly, July 20-21, 1992
  o Boston Globe, September 4, 1992
  o New York Times Book Review, September 6, 1992
  o New York Times Book Review, September 13, 1992
  o Los Angeles Times Book Review, September 27, 1992
  o Feminist Bookstore News, September/October 1992
  o San Bernardino Sun, October 13, 1992
  o U-High Midway, October 13, 1992
  o Harvard University Press catalog, Fall 1992
  o Lab Directions, November 1992
  o Monitor, November 5, 1992
  o New York Times Book Review, December 6, 1992
  o Tulanian, Winter 1992
  o Values & Visions, 1993
  o Parents Magazine, February 1993
  o Chicago Tribune, February 10, 1993
  o Educational Leadership, March 1993
  o Teaching Tolerance, Spring 1993
  o Milwaukee Journal, September 5, 1993
  o Chicago Tribune, October 17, 1993
  o Roeper Review, November 1993
  o Democracy & Education, Winter 1993
  o KLIATT, January 1994
  o Los Angeles Times, September 28, 1994
  o Washington Post, October 27, 1994
  o Parent and Preschooler Newsletter, May 1996
  o Instructor, September 1996
  o Scholastic Early Childhood Today, April 1998
  o Educational Leadership, September 1998
  o Jewish Education Center of Cleveland, September 15, 1999
  o Washington Post, September 21, 1999
  o Feminist Bookstore News, Fall 1999
Bay Area Parent, Silicon Valley edition, December 1999
Yes! A Journal of Positive Futures, Winter 1999
Kalamazoo Gazette, February 27, 2000
Independent School, Winter 2000
Wexner Heritage website, June 21, 2001
Palm Beach Post, May 5, 2002
Mercury News, March 17, 2004
Greater Good, Winter 2007-8
2 Harvard University Press catalog pages, n.d.
Instructor, n.d.
LCHC Newsletter, n.d.
Lab Notes, n.d.
2 unknown sources, n.d.
Wall Street Journal, n.d.
Washington Post, comic strip “Apartment 3-G” by Alex Kotzky, n.d.

Publishers’ catalogs (each includes more than one Paley book)
- Harvard University Press, n.d.
- University of Chicago Press, 1988
- Harvard University Press, 1999
- Harvard University Press, Education, 2002
- Harvard University Press, Education & Psychology, 2005
- Harvard University Press, Education & Psychology, 2006
- University of Chicago Press, 2005
Series Number: 2

Series Title: Articles

Series Dates: 1973–2010

Series Quantity: 15 ½ inches

Series Arrangement: Alphabetical by author’s name or article title

Series Scope and Content Note:
This series consists of magazine, journal articles, and reviews by and about Vivian Gussin Paley and not related to a specific book of hers. Articles by Vivian Gussin Paley are grouped together in Box 3; articles about Vivian Gussin Paley are grouped together in Box 4.

Series Container/Folder List:
Box 3:
- ______. “Dr. Coles and Ruby.” n.d.
- ______. Draft of speech for New Paltz/Honorary Degree, n.d.
- ______. Endorsement of Here’s the Story by Daniel R. Meier, n.d.
- ______. Endorsement of Sammy by Caltha Crowe, n.d.
- ______. Endorsement of unidentified work by Susan Engel, n.d.
- ______. “Every Child a Storyteller” n.d.
- ______. “For Something About the Author, 2002.
- ______. Foreword for The Good Preschool Teacher: Reflections of Six Teachers by William Ayers, n.d.
- ______. Foreword for The Lydia Year by Connie Green, n.d.
- ______. Foreword for Why We Teach: Learning, Laughter, Love and the Power to Transform Lives by Linda Alston, n.d.
• ______. Introduction to Under Deadman’s Skin by Jane Katch, 2000.
• ______. Letter of recommendation for Sarah Sivright, n.d.
• ______. “On Being Nice.” n.d.
• ______. “One Scene at a Time: Imaginative Play as the Young Person’s Frame of Reference.” n.d.
• ______. “The Power of Kindness.” Creative Classroom November/December (1997), 64.
• ______. “The Power of Story.” n.d.
• ______. Preface to “Thriving in the Multicultural Classroom” by Mary Dilg, n.d.
• ______. Pre-publication comment on “They Don’t Like Me: Lessons on bullying and Teasing from a Preschool Classroom” by Jane Katch, 2003.
• ______. Review of Black Child Care by James P. Comer and Alvin F. Poussant. Union Report, July 30, 1976, 6.
• ______. Review of The Bus Kids by Ira Lit, n.d.
• ______. Review of Class Meetings by Mona Halaby, n.d.
• ______. Review of Coming to Care by Florence H. Davidson, n.d.
• ______. Review of Powerful Magic by Nina Mikkelsen, n.d.
• ______. Review of Scenes From Daycare by Elizabeth Platt, 1991.
• ______. Review of Story Dictation by Ann Gadzikowski, n.d.
• ______. Review of Teaching as Story Telling by Kieran Egan, [1988].
• ______. Review of unidentified work by Judith Lindfors, n.d.
• ______. Review of unidentified work by Sam Swope, n.d.
• ______. Review of Writing, Reading, and Imagining. Unidentified author, n.d.

Series Container/Folder List:

Box 4:
• Alward, Keith R. “Looking for Piaget’s Social Theory in Vivian Paley’s Kindergarten.” 2004
• “Between the Lines.” Chicago Magazine, June 2002.
• Cooper, Patricia M. “Dictation and Dramatization and the Early Literacy Curriculum.” n.d.
• Promoting the book Class Acts: Teachers Reflect on Their Own Classroom Practice with a preface by Vivian Gussin Paley.
• Holbert, Ginny. “‘Genius’ Teacher Learns from Pupil’s Stories.” Chicago Sun-Times, June 24, 1990.
• Lindfors, Judith Wells. Review of The Classrooms All Young Children Need: Lessons in Teaching from Vivian Paley by Patricia M. Cooper. n.d.
• The Quarterly Newsletter of the Laboratory of Comparative Human Cognition 14 (1992). Special issue devoted to the work of Vivian Paley.
• The Storytelling Story Acting Network. A Project of Child Care Resources, n.d.
• Walls, Patricia. “What Happens When Storytelling and Story-acting are Introduced into the Preschool Classroom?” 2003.

Series Number: 3

Series Title: Conferences

Series Dates: 1984–2010

Series Quantity: 7 ½ inches

Series Arrangement: By date

Series Scope and Content Note:
This series contains materials related to presentations by Vivian Gussin Paley at conferences, workshops, and symposia. Of note are items concerning the Outstanding Educator in the English Language Arts award, presented at the National Council of Teachers of English convention in 2004.

Series Container/Folder List:
Box 5:
• The Classroom Teacher as Researcher, College of Education, November 19, 1984, [Chicago, IL?]
• Workshop for Nursery-Kindergarten Teachers, Board of Jewish Education of Metropolitan Chicago, October 9, 1985, Skokie, IL
• Teaching and Learning in the Classroom: 1985-86 Colloquia on Schooling, Harvard University Graduate School of Education, November 14, 1985
• New England Kindergarten Conference, November 22-26, 1986, Cambridge, MA
• Connections: Adults and Young Children “Thinking, Talking, Doing,” Hawaii Association for the Education of Young Children, February 19-20, 1988, Honolulu, HI
• A New Look at Language Arts in Childhood, Harold E. Jones Child Study Center, UC Berkeley, July 22-23, 1988, Berkeley, CA
• Chicago Seminars on the Future, May 24, 1989, Chicago, IL
• Erikson Institute Conference on Children, May 17, 1990, Chicago, IL
• “In Search of the Real Child.” Chute School, November 8, 1990, Evanston, IL
• Hazel G. Creekmore Memorial Curriculum Collection Symposium, April 19, 1994, Houston, TX
• National Conference on the Spiritual Life of Children, November 1996, Chicago, IL
• The Early Childhood Learning Center at MJCC, April 15-16, 1999, Portland, OR
• Washington Island Writers Society, August 2000, Washington Island, WI
• Chicago Annenberg Challenge, October 4, 2000, Chicago, IL
• Region 16 Head Start Literacy Grant, February 7, 2001, Amarillo, TX
• Child Care Project 2001 Annual Conference, May 19, 2001, Hanover, NH
• The Role of the Preschool Teacher in Child’s Play: A Focus on Literacy, Math, and Science, The Center for Early Education Research at Rutgers Annual Early Childhood Spring Conference, June 4, 2001, New Brunswick, NJ
• The Many Worlds of Childhood, Wyoming Early Childhood Association Conference, September 7-8, 2001, Casper, WY
• Door County Literacy Fair, October 20, 2001, Sturgeon Bay, WI
• Children Indivisible: Inventing a Classroom Community, Institute for the New England School Development Council, February 6, 2002, Milford, MA
• Women in Education: Transforming Theory, Research, and Practice, April 25, 2002, Greencastle, IN
• New Zealand Childcare Association Annual Conference, July 5-7, 2002, Christchurch, New Zealand
• The Power of Play Early Childhood Conference, North Central Michigan College, March 4-5, 2002, Petoskey, MI
• Every Child a Masterpiece, American Montessori Society Conference, October 11, 2002, St. Louis, MO
• Entering the Minds of Children: Vivian Gussin Paley – Lectures and Workshops, October 31-November 2, 2002, Taipei, Taiwan
• School Literacy & Culture Project’s Fourth Annual Miniconference, January 18, 2003, Houston, TX
• Many Worlds of Childhood, Virginia Association of Early Childhood Educators (VAECE) March 20, 2003
• Building Community Through Stories, 34th Annual Uberto Price Reading and Language Arts Symposium, September 19, 2003, Tempe, AZ
• Just for Grown-Up Series, October 7, 2003, Naperville, IL
• National Association for the Education of Young Children’s Annual Conference, November 5, 2003, Chicago, IL
• Personal Pathways to Professionalism, Boston Association for the Education of Young Children (BAEYC), March 12, 2004, Bridgewater, MA
• Marching to Different Drums: The Outsider in Literature for Children and Young Adults, April 4-5, 2003, Madison, WI
• Primary Project Annual Conference, November 4-5, 2004, Rochester, NY.
• National Council of Teachers of English Convention (Outstanding Educator in the English Language Arts award), November 18–23, 2004, Indianapolis, IN
Commencement, Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education, University of Wyoming, May 7, 2005, Laramie, WY


Vivian Paley: The Power of Story & Drama: A Nurturing Ground for All, Schaumburg Township District Library, August 25, 2005, Schaumburg, IL

English Studies Lecture Series, Illinois State University, September 22, 2005, Normal, IL

School Literacy & Culture Project, Rice University Center for Education, 2005, Houston, TX

Third Early Childhood Symposium and Dialogue, February 25, 2006, Oak Park, IL

AMS [American Montessori Society] 2006 Annual Conference, March 30- April 2, 2006, Houston, TX

Storytelling: The Theater of Childhood, 14th Annual New England Conference on Storytelling for Children, April 16, 2006, Keene, NH


Storytelling and Theatre in the Classroom: Observing Vivian Paley Working with Children, October 24, 2006, Newton, MA

Early Childhood Education Council Conference (ECEC) 2006, November 10, 2006, Edmonton, Canada

The Paley Approach: Lessons from a Master Teacher, Center for Jewish Education, November 12, 2008, Baltimore, MD

A Search for the Meaning of Play: A Workshop with Vivian Paley, Bing Nursery School, Stanford University, February 17, 2009, Stanford, CA

Play, the Imagination, and Taking Time for Living Life, Teachers College, Columbia University, April 10, 2010, New York, NY.


Series Number: 4

Series Title: Awards and Honors

Series Dates: 1987–2010

Series Quantity: 2 ½ inches

Series Arrangement: By date

Series Scope and Content Note: This series contains materials related to awards and honors presented to Vivian Gussin Paley.

Series Container/Folder List:
Box 6:
- Erikson Institute Award for Service to Children, 1987
- MacArthur Fellowship, 1989
- CEE James N. Britton Award, 1990
- Newcomb College Outstanding Alumna of the Year, 1993
- SUNY New Paltz Honorary Degree, 2001
- Saint Michael’s College Honorary Degree, 2006.
- 92Y Vivian Gussin Paley Award for Excellence in Early Childhood Education, 2010

Series Number: 5

Series Title: Correspondence


Series Quantity: 2½ inches

Series Arrangement: By year

Series Scope and Content Note:
This series contains several letters of appreciation in addition to letters from publishers, friends, and colleagues.

Series Container/Folder List:
Box 7:
Series Number: 6

Series Title: Autographed Books

Series Dates: 1979–2010

Series Quantity: 7 ½ inches

Series Arrangement: By title

Series Scope and Content Note:
This series contains one or more autographed copies of each of Vivian Gussin Paley’s thirteen books.

Series Container List:
Box 8:
- Wally’s Stories: Conversations in the Kindergarten. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1981. (hardback and paperback, 1 copy of each)
- White Teacher. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press
  - 1979, 1989. (paperback)
Series Number: 7

Series Title: Audio-Visual Materials

Series Dates: 1990–2007

Series Quantity: 7 ½ inches

Series Arrangement: By title

Series Scope and Content Note:
This series contains photographs, cassette tapes, and videotapes related to interviews and presentations made by Vivian Gussin Paley. Several items are marked with minimal information.

Series Container List:
Box 9:
- “Dolls,” WBEZ, Chicago, March 3, 2000, cassette tape (2 copies)
- “Fantasy Play of Children and Trauma,” WGLT, September 20, 2005, cassette tape
- “June Fox Lecture, April 25, 2007,” photographs.
- “The Kindness of Children; Oprah,” April 8, 1999, videotape (3 copies)
- Photo album containing 27 color photographs of Paley’s presentation in Taipei, October-November 2002
- “Starting Small: Teaching Children Tolerance,” Teaching Tolerance, 1997, videotape, 58 min. (2 copies)
- “Storytelling & Story Acting with Vivian Gussin Paley,” Ball State University, n.d., videotape
- “Storytelling Themes with Vivian Gussin Paley,” Ball State University, n.d., videotape
- “Susan Stamberg Interview,” April 30, 2002, cassette tape
- “Vivian Gussin Paley and the Boy Who Could Tell Stories,” produced for Ball State University by Covenant Productions, 2001, videotape, 30 min., with companion booklet by Resa Matlock and Randy Testa
- “Vivian Paley/Fresh Air,” April 12, n.y., cassette tape
- “You Can’t Say…” Ira Glass, WBEZ-FM, June 29, 1996, cassette tape
2 videotapes with illegible labels

Series Number: 8

Series Title: Foreign-Language Editions


Series Quantity: 7 ½ inches

Series Arrangement: By English-language title

Series Scope and Content Note:
This series contains one or more foreign language editions of eleven books written by Vivian Gussin Paley.

Series Container List:
Box 10:
• You Can’t Say You Can’t Play [No puedes decirle que no puede jugar]. Spanish-language edition, 2007. (paperback)