



TABLE OF CONTENTS

●	Description	p.1
●	Impact Factor	p.1
●	Abstracting and Indexing	p.1
●	Editorial Board	p.2
●	Guide for Authors	p.4



ISSN: 0885-2006

DESCRIPTION

Early Childhood Research Quarterly (ECRQ) publishes research on **early childhood education** and **development** from birth through 8 years of age. ECRQ publishes predominantly empirical research (quantitative or qualitative methods) on issues of interest to early childhood development, theory, and educational practice.

The journal also occasionally publishes practitioner and/or policy perspectives and significant reviews of research. As an applied journal, we are interested in work that has social, policy, and educational relevance and implications and work that strengthens links between research and practice.

Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Children's social, emotional, cognitive, behavioral, language, and motor development applied to early childhood settings.
- Childcare, program quality, and children's transition to school
- The efficacy of early intervention and prevention programs
- Public policy, early childhood education, and child development
- Best classroom practices and effective early childhood curricula
- Professional development and training for early childhood practitioners

Benefits to authors

We also provide many author benefits, such as free PDFs, a liberal copyright policy, special discounts on Elsevier publications and much more. Please click here for more information on our [author services](#).

Please see our [Guide for Authors](#) for information on article submission. If you require any further information or help, please visit our [Support Center](#)

IMPACT FACTOR

2016: 2.436 © Clarivate Analytics Journal Citation Reports 2017

ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

Scopus
MathEduc

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editor

Laura Justice, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, USA

Associate Editors

Cecília Aguiar, ISCTE-Instituto Universitário de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal

Sonia Cabell, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida, USA

María S. Carlo, University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida, USA

Jorge Gonzalez, University of Houston, Houston, Texas, USA

Iheoma Iruka, High Scope Educational Research Foundation, Ypsilanti, Michigan, USA

David Purpura, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, USA

X. Christine Wang, University at Buffalo, The State University of New York, Buffalo, New York, USA

Xiao Zhang, The University of Hong Kong, Pokfulam, Hong Kong

Special Content Editor

Gary Resnick, Education Development Center, San Francisco, California, USA

Editorial Board Members

Dionissi Aliprantis, Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, Cleveland, Ohio, USA

Arya Ansari, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia, USA

Dorit Aram, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel

Heather J. Bachman, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA

Courtney N. Baker, Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

Steven Barnett, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, Virginia, USA

Daphna Bassok, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, USA

Erin Marie Baumgartner, Rice University, Houston, Texas, USA

Marjorie Beeghly, Wayne State University (WSU), Detroit, Michigan, USA

Joann Beningo, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio, USA

Daniel Berry, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, Illinois, USA

Donna Berthelsen, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Dorthe Bleses, Aarhus University, Aarhus C, Denmark

Robert Bradley, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona, USA

Mary E. Bratsch-Hines, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, USA

Martine Louise Broekhuizen, Utrecht University, Utrecht, Netherlands

Rebecca Bulotsky Shearer, University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida, USA

Margaret Burchinal, Frank Porter Graham Child Development Center, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, USA

Kira Carbonneau, Washington State University, Pullman, Washington, USA

Timothy Curby, George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia, USA

Stephanie Curenton, Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts, USA

Henrik Daae Zachrisson, University of Oslo, Oslo, Norway

Eric Dearing, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts, USA

Darlene DeMarie, University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida, USA

David Dickinson, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, USA

Janean Dilworth-Bart, University of Wisconsin at Madison, Madison, Wisconsin, USA

Fabienne Doucet, New York University, New York, New York, USA

Diane Early, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, USA

Nancy File, University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA

Roseanne Flores, Hunter College, New York, New York, USA

Kathleen Gallagher, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, USA

Hope Gerde, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan, USA

Rachel A. Gordon, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, USA

Susan Grieshaber, La Trobe University, Bundoora, Victoria, Australia

Todd Grindal, Abt Associates, Inc., Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA

Dominic Gullo, Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

Tamara Halle, Child Trends, Bethesda, Maryland, USA

Yvette Harris, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, USA

Bridget E. Hatfield, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon, USA

Annemarie Hindman, Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

Steven J. Howard, University of Wollongong, Wollongong, New South Wales, Australia

Marisha L. Humphries, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, USA

Mary Jensen, State University of New York (SUNY) at Geneseo, Geneseo, New York, USA

Marja-Kristiina Lerkkanen, University of Jyväskylä, Jyväskylä, Finland

Kejian Li, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China

Sandra Machida, California State University, Chico, California, USA

David MacPhee, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado, USA

Katherine Magnuson, University of Wisconsin at Madison, Madison, Wisconsin, USA

Louis Manfra, University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri, USA
Andrew Mashburn, Portland State University, Portland, Oregon, USA
Brent A McBride, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, USA
Lisa McCabe, Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research, Ithaca, New York, USA
Megan McClelland, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon, USA
Amanda Moreno, Erikson Institute, Chicago, Illinois, USA
Taryn Morrissey, The American University, Washington, District of Columbia, USA
Regena Nelson, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan, USA
Ageliki Nicolopoulou, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, USA
Beth Phillips, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida, USA
Sharolyn D. Pollard-Durodola, University of Nevada at Las Vegas, Las Vegas, Nevada, USA
Elisabeth Pungello, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, USA
Kelly M. Purtell, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, USA
Suzanne Quinn, University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida, USA
Sara E. Rimm-Kaufman, Virginia Commonwealth University, Charlottesville, Virginia, USA
Mesut Saçkes, Balikesir University, Balikesir, Turkey
Avi Sagi-Schwartz, University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel
Cathryn Scott-Little, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Greensboro, North Carolina, USA
Pauline Slot, Utrecht University, Utrecht, Netherlands
Susan Sonnenschein, University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC), Baltimore, Maryland, USA
Katherine Strasser Salinas, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Santiago, Chile
Angela Taylor, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, USA
Mariana Vasilyeva, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts, USA
Harriet Vermeer, Universiteit Leiden, Leiden, Netherlands
Dale Walker, Juniper Gardens Children's Project, Kansas City, Kansas, USA
Xiaoli Wen, National Louis University, Chicago, USA
Adam Winsler, George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia, USA
Tricia A. Zucker, The University of Texas Medical School, Houston, USA

GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

Submission checklist

ECRQ considers the following article types:

Empirical research report: For details of article structure see below. Length should not exceed 40 pages (all inclusive).

Review article: Conceptual, historical and theoretical reviews on a topic of high interest and relevance; Empirical quantitative and/or qualitative reviews. If you have a completed manuscript that fits into one of these two types of reviews, we invite your submission. If you are considering preparing a review of one of these two types, please consult with our Special Content Editor Gary Resnick (SevenAlaris@msn.com).

If your article does not fit into these categories, please consult with the Editor-in-Chief Laura Justice justice.57@osu.edu.

You can use this list to carry out a final check of your submission before you send it to the journal for review. Please check the relevant section in this Guide for Authors for more details.

Ensure that the following items are present:

One author has been designated as the corresponding author with contact details:

- E-mail address
- Full postal address

All necessary files have been uploaded:

Manuscript:

• Please ensure that you have fully blinded your manuscript before submission. We expect authors to follow the guidance [here](#) to ensure that their paper is blinded. If the authors do not adhere to this process, it is possible that their identity may be revealed to reviewers.

- Include keywords
- All figures (include relevant captions)
- All tables (including titles, description, footnotes)
- Ensure all figure and table citations in the text match the files provided
- Indicate clearly if color should be used for any figures in print

Graphical Abstracts / Highlights files (where applicable)

Supplemental files (where applicable)

Further considerations

- Manuscript has been 'spell checked' and 'grammar checked'
- All references mentioned in the Reference List are cited in the text, and vice versa
- Permission has been obtained for use of copyrighted material from other sources (including the Internet)
- A competing interests statement is provided, even if the authors have no competing interests to declare
- Journal policies detailed in this guide have been reviewed
- Referee suggestions and contact details provided, based on journal requirements

For further information, visit our [Support Center](#)

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Ethics in publishing

Please see our information pages on [Ethics in publishing](#) and [Ethical guidelines for journal publication](#).

Human and animal rights

If the work involves the use of animal or human subjects, the author should ensure that the work described has been carried out in accordance with The Code of Ethics of the World Medical Association (Declaration of Helsinki) for experiments involving humans <http://www.wma.net/en/30publications/10policies/b3/index.html>; EU Directive 2010/63/EU for animal experiments http://ec.europa.eu/environment/chemicals/lab_animals/legislation_en.htm; Uniform Requirements for manuscripts submitted to Biomedical journals <http://www.icmje.org>. Authors should include a statement in the manuscript that informed consent was obtained for experimentation with human subjects. The privacy rights of human subjects must always be observed.

All animal studies need to ensure they comply with the ARRIVE guidelines. More information can be found at <http://www.nc3rs.org.uk/page.asp?id=1357>.

Declaration of interest

All authors must disclose any financial and personal relationships with other people or organizations that could inappropriately influence (bias) their work. Examples of potential conflicts of interest include employment, consultancies, stock ownership, honoraria, paid expert testimony, patent applications/registrations, and grants or other funding. Authors must disclose any interests in two places: 1. A summary declaration of interest statement in the title page file (if double-blind) or the manuscript file (if single-blind). If there are no interests to declare then please state this: 'Declarations of interest: none'. This summary statement will be ultimately published if the article is accepted. 2. Detailed disclosures as part of a separate Declaration of Interest form, which forms part of the journal's official records. It is important for potential interests to be declared in both places and that the information matches. [More information](#).

Submission declaration and verification

Submission of an article implies that the work described has not been published previously (except in the form of an abstract, a published lecture or academic thesis, see '[Multiple, redundant or concurrent publication](#)' for more information), that it is not under consideration for publication elsewhere, that its publication is approved by all authors and tacitly or explicitly by the responsible authorities where the work was carried out, and that, if accepted, it will not be published elsewhere in the same form, in English or in any other language, including electronically without the written consent of the copyright-holder. To verify originality, your article may be checked by the originality detection service [Crossref Similarity Check](#).

Changes to authorship

Authors are expected to consider carefully the list and order of authors **before** submitting their manuscript and provide the definitive list of authors at the time of the original submission. Any addition, deletion or rearrangement of author names in the authorship list should be made only **before** the manuscript has been accepted and only if approved by the journal Editor. To request such a change, the Editor must receive the following from the **corresponding author**: (a) the reason for the change in author list and (b) written confirmation (e-mail, letter) from all authors that they agree with the addition, removal or rearrangement. In the case of addition or removal of authors, this includes confirmation from the author being added or removed.

Only in exceptional circumstances will the Editor consider the addition, deletion or rearrangement of authors **after** the manuscript has been accepted. While the Editor considers the request, publication of the manuscript will be suspended. If the manuscript has already been published in an online issue, any requests approved by the Editor will result in a corrigendum.

Copyright

Upon acceptance of an article, authors will be asked to complete a 'Journal Publishing Agreement' (see [more information](#) on this). An e-mail will be sent to the corresponding author confirming receipt of the manuscript together with a 'Journal Publishing Agreement' form or a link to the online version of this agreement.

Subscribers may reproduce tables of contents or prepare lists of articles including abstracts for internal circulation within their institutions. [Permission](#) of the Publisher is required for resale or distribution outside the institution and for all other derivative works, including compilations and translations. If excerpts from other copyrighted works are included, the author(s) must obtain written permission from the copyright owners and credit the source(s) in the article. Elsevier has [preprinted forms](#) for use by authors in these cases.

For open access articles: Upon acceptance of an article, authors will be asked to complete an 'Exclusive License Agreement' ([more information](#)). Permitted third party reuse of open access articles is determined by the author's choice of [user license](#).

Author rights

As an author you (or your employer or institution) have certain rights to reuse your work. [More information](#).

Elsevier supports responsible sharing

Find out how you can [share your research](#) published in Elsevier journals.

Role of the funding source

You are requested to identify who provided financial support for the conduct of the research and/or preparation of the article and to briefly describe the role of the sponsor(s), if any, in study design; in the collection, analysis and interpretation of data; in the writing of the report; and in the decision to submit the article for publication. If the funding source(s) had no such involvement then this should be stated.

Funding body agreements and policies

Elsevier has established a number of agreements with funding bodies which allow authors to comply with their funder's open access policies. Some funding bodies will reimburse the author for the Open Access Publication Fee. Details of [existing agreements](#) are available online.

Open access

This journal offers authors a choice in publishing their research:

Subscription

- Articles are made available to subscribers as well as developing countries and patient groups through our [universal access programs](#).
- No open access publication fee payable by authors.

Open access

- Articles are freely available to both subscribers and the wider public with permitted reuse.
- An open access publication fee is payable by authors or on their behalf, e.g. by their research funder or institution.

Regardless of how you choose to publish your article, the journal will apply the same peer review criteria and acceptance standards.

For open access articles, permitted third party (re)use is defined by the following [Creative Commons user licenses](#):

Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY)

Lets others distribute and copy the article, create extracts, abstracts, and other revised versions, adaptations or derivative works of or from an article (such as a translation), include in a collective work (such as an anthology), text or data mine the article, even for commercial purposes, as long as they credit the author(s), do not represent the author as endorsing their adaptation of the article, and do not modify the article in such a way as to damage the author's honor or reputation.

Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs (CC BY-NC-ND)

For non-commercial purposes, lets others distribute and copy the article, and to include in a collective work (such as an anthology), as long as they credit the author(s) and provided they do not alter or modify the article.

The open access publication fee for this journal is **USD 1800**, excluding taxes. Learn more about Elsevier's pricing policy: <http://www.elsevier.com/openaccesspricing>.

Green open access

Authors can share their research in a variety of different ways and Elsevier has a number of green open access options available. We recommend authors see our [green open access page](#) for further information. Authors can also self-archive their manuscripts immediately and enable public access from their institution's repository after an embargo period. This is the version that has been accepted for publication and which typically includes author-incorporated changes suggested during submission, peer review and in editor-author communications. Embargo period: For subscription

articles, an appropriate amount of time is needed for journals to deliver value to subscribing customers before an article becomes freely available to the public. This is the embargo period and it begins from the date the article is formally published online in its final and fully citable form. [Find out more](#).

This journal has an embargo period of 24 months.

Elsevier Researcher Academy

[Researcher Academy](#) is a free e-learning platform designed to support early and mid-career researchers throughout their research journey. The "Learn" environment at Researcher Academy offers several interactive modules, webinars, downloadable guides and resources to guide you through the process of writing for research and going through peer review. Feel free to use these free resources to improve your submission and navigate the publication process with ease.

Language (usage and editing services)

Please write your text in good English (American or British usage is accepted, but not a mixture of these). Authors who feel their English language manuscript may require editing to eliminate possible grammatical or spelling errors and to conform to correct scientific English may wish to use the [English Language Editing service](#) available from Elsevier's WebShop.

Submission

Submission to this journal proceeds totally online and you will be guided stepwise through the creation and uploading of your files. The system automatically converts source files to a single PDF file of the article, which is used in the peer-review process. Please note that even though manuscript source files are converted to PDF files at submission for the review process, the ORIGINAL source files (I.E., DOC OR DOCX) are needed for further processing. All correspondence, including notification of the Editor's decision and requests for revision, takes place by e-mail removing the need for a paper trail.

Special issue proposals

Early Childhood Research Quarterly (ECRQ) is open to receiving proposals for special issues and/or special sections. Please see our guidance on special issues and sections [here](#)

PREPARATION

Manuscripts should be word processed, double-spaced, in 12-point font with one-inch margins on all sides. articles should be concise and written in good English. The first page of manuscript should contain the article title, abstract, and keywords only. Do not include any identifying information in the body of the paper.

The style guidelines of the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed., 2009) should be followed. Headings, tables and reference lists should conform to APA style.

Authors should provide information about the magnitude of effects (e.g., effects sizes, beta) as well as the significance level for all significant result.

Peer review

This journal operates a double blind review process. All contributions will be initially assessed by the editor for suitability for the journal. Papers deemed suitable are then typically sent to a minimum of two independent expert reviewers to assess the scientific quality of the paper. The Editor is responsible for the final decision regarding acceptance or rejection of articles. The Editor's decision is final. [More information on types of peer review](#).

Double-blind review

This journal uses double-blind review, which means the identities of the authors are concealed from the reviewers, and vice versa. [More information](#) is available on our website. To facilitate this, please include the following separately: Title page (with author details): This should include the title, authors' names, affiliations, acknowledgements and any Declaration of Interest statement, and a complete address for the corresponding author including an e-mail address. Blinded manuscript (no author details): The main body of the paper (including the references, figures, tables and any acknowledgements) should not include any identifying information, such as the authors' names or affiliations.

Use of word processing software

It is important that the file be saved in the native format of the wordprocessor used. The text should be in single-column format. Keep the layout of the text as simple as possible. Most formatting codes will be removed and replaced on processing the article. In particular, do not use the wordprocessor's options to justify text or to hyphenate words. However, do use bold face, italics, subscripts, superscripts etc. Do not embed "graphically designed" equations or tables, but prepare these using

the wordprocessor's facility. When preparing tables, if you are using a table grid, use only one grid for each individual table and not a grid for each row. If no grid is used, use tabs, not spaces, to align columns. The electronic text should be prepared in a way very similar to that of conventional manuscript publishing with Elsevier (<http://www.elsevier.com/guidepublication>). Do not import the figures into the text file but, instead, indicate their approximate locations directly in the electronic text and on the manuscript. See also the section on Electronic illustrations.

To avoid unnecessary errors you are strongly advised to use the "spell-check" and "grammar-check" functions of your wordprocessor.

Article structure

Subdivision

Divide your article into clearly defined sections. Each heading should appear on its own separate line.

Introduction

State the objectives of the work and provide an adequate background, including a brief literature review.

Material and methods

Provide sufficient details to allow the work to be reproduced by an independent researcher. Methods that are already published should be summarized, and indicated by a reference. If quoting directly from a previously published method, use quotation marks and also cite the source. Any modifications to existing methods should also be described.

Results

Results should be clear and concise.

Discussion

This should explore the significance of the results of the work, not repeat them. Avoid extensive citations and discussion of published literature.

Conclusion

The main conclusions of the study may be presented in a short Conclusions section which should be a subsection of the Discussion section.

Appendices

If there is more than one appendix, they should be identified as A, B, etc. Formulae and equations in appendices should be given separate numbering: Eq. (A.1), Eq. (A.2), etc.; in a subsequent appendix, Eq. (B.1) and so on. Similarly for tables and figures: Table A.1; Fig. A.1, etc.

Essential title page information

- **Title.** Concise and informative. Titles are often used in information-retrieval systems. Avoid abbreviations and formulae where possible.

- **Author names and affiliations.** Please clearly indicate the given name(s) and family name(s) of each author and check that all names are accurately spelled. You can add your name between parentheses in your own script behind the English transliteration. Present the authors' affiliation addresses (where the actual work was done) below the names. Indicate all affiliations with a lower-case superscript letter immediately after the author's name and in front of the appropriate address. Provide the full postal address of each affiliation, including the country name and, if available, the e-mail address of each author.

- **Corresponding author.** Clearly indicate who will handle correspondence at all stages of refereeing and publication, also post-publication. This responsibility includes answering any future queries about Methodology and Materials. **Ensure that the e-mail address is given and that contact details are kept up to date by the corresponding author.**

- **Present/permanent address.** If an author has moved since the work described in the article was done, or was visiting at the time, a 'Present address' (or 'Permanent address') may be indicated as a footnote to that author's name. The address at which the author actually did the work must be retained as the main, affiliation address. Superscript Arabic numerals are used for such footnotes.

Abstract

A concise and factual abstract is required. The abstract should state briefly the purpose of the research, the principal results and major conclusions. An abstract is often presented separately from the article, so it must be able to stand alone. For this reason, References should be avoided, but if essential, then cite the author(s) and year(s). Also, non-standard or uncommon abbreviations should be avoided, but if essential they must be defined at their first mention in the abstract itself.

Graphical abstract

Although a graphical abstract is optional, its use is encouraged as it draws more attention to the online article. The graphical abstract should summarize the contents of the article in a concise, pictorial form designed to capture the attention of a wide readership. Graphical abstracts should be submitted as a separate file in the online submission system. Image size: Please provide an image with a minimum of 531 × 1328 pixels (h × w) or proportionally more. The image should be readable at a size of 5 × 13 cm using a regular screen resolution of 96 dpi. Preferred file types: TIFF, EPS, PDF or MS Office files. You can view [Example Graphical Abstracts](#) on our information site.

Authors can make use of Elsevier's [Illustration Services](#) to ensure the best presentation of their images and in accordance with all technical requirements.

Highlights

Highlights are mandatory for this journal. They consist of a short collection of bullet points that convey the core findings of the article and should be submitted in a separate editable file in the online submission system. Please use 'Highlights' in the file name and include 3 to 5 bullet points (maximum 85 characters, including spaces, per bullet point). You can view [example Highlights](#) on our information site.

Keywords

Immediately after the abstract, provide a maximum of 6 keywords, using American spelling and avoiding general and plural terms and multiple concepts (avoid, for example, 'and', 'of'). Be sparing with abbreviations: only abbreviations firmly established in the field may be eligible. These keywords will be used for indexing purposes.

Acknowledgements

Collate acknowledgements in a separate section and include them **only** on the title page with author information and **not** in the body of the manuscript. List here those individuals who provided help during the research (e.g., providing language help, writing assistance or proof reading the article, etc.).

Formatting of funding sources

List funding sources in this standard way to facilitate compliance to funder's requirements:

Funding: This work was supported by the National Institutes of Health [grant numbers xxxx, yyyy]; the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Seattle, WA [grant number zzzz]; and the United States Institutes of Peace [grant number aaaa].

It is not necessary to include detailed descriptions on the program or type of grants and awards. When funding is from a block grant or other resources available to a university, college, or other research institution, submit the name of the institute or organization that provided the funding.

If no funding has been provided for the research, please include the following sentence:

This research did not receive any specific grant from funding agencies in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors.

Footnotes

Footnotes should rarely be used. If absolutely essential, number them consecutively throughout the article, using superscript Arabic numbers. Many wordprocessors build footnotes into the text, and this feature may be used. Should this not be the case, indicate the position of footnotes in the text and present the footnotes themselves separately at the end of the article. Do not include footnotes in the Reference list.

Table footnotes

Indicate each footnote in a table with a superscript lowercase letter.

Artwork

Electronic Artwork

General Points

- Make sure you use uniform lettering and sizing of your original artwork.
- Save text illustrations as "graphics" or enclose the font.
- Only use the following fonts in your illustrations: Arial, Courier, Times, Symbol.

- Number the illustrations according to their sequence in the text.
 - Use a logical naming convention for your artwork files.
 - Provide captions to illustrations separately.
 - Produce images near to the desired size of the printed version.
- A detailed guide on electronic artwork is available on our website:
<http://www.elsevier.com/artworkinstructions>
You are urged to visit this site; some excerpts from the detailed information are given here.

Formats

Regardless of the application used, when your electronic artwork is finalised, please "save as" or convert the images to one of the following formats (note the resolution requirements for line drawings, halftones, and line/halftone combinations given below):

EPS: Vector drawings. Embed the font or save the text as "graphics".

TIFF: color or grayscale photographs (halftones): a minimum of 300 dpi.

TIFF: Combinations bitmapped line/half-tone (colour or grayscale): a minimum of 500 dpi is required.

DOC, XLS or PPT: If your electronic artwork is created in any of these Microsoft Office Applications please supply "as is".

Please do Not:

- Supply files that are optimised for screen use (like GIF, BMP, PICT, WPG); the resolution is too low;
- Supply files that are too low in resolution
- Submit graphics that are disproportionately large for the content.

Color artwork

Please make sure that artwork files are in an acceptable format (TIFF (or JPEG), EPS (or PDF), or MS Office files) and with the correct resolution. If, together with your accepted article, you submit usable color figures then Elsevier will ensure, at no additional charge, that these figures will appear in color online (e.g., ScienceDirect and other sites) regardless of whether or not these illustrations are reproduced in color in the printed version. **For color reproduction in print, you will receive information regarding the costs from Elsevier after receipt of your accepted article.** Please indicate your preference for color: in print or online only. [Further information on the preparation of electronic artwork.](#)

Figure captions

Ensure that each illustration has a caption. Supply captions separately, not attached to the figure. A caption should comprise a brief title (**not** on the figure itself) and a description of the illustration. Keep text in the illustrations themselves to a minimum but explain all symbols and abbreviations used.

Tables

Please submit tables as editable text and not as images. Tables can be placed either next to the relevant text in the article, or on separate page(s) at the end. Number tables consecutively in accordance with their appearance in the text and place any table notes below the table body. Be sparing in the use of tables and ensure that the data presented in them do not duplicate results described elsewhere in the article. Please avoid using vertical rules and shading in table cells.

References

Citation in text

Please ensure that every reference cited in the text is also present in the reference list (and vice versa). Any references cited in the abstract must be given in full. Unpublished results and personal communications are not recommended in the reference list, but may be mentioned in the text. If these

references are included in the reference list they should follow the standard reference style of the journal and should include a substitution of the publication date with either 'Unpublished results' or 'Personal communication'. Citation of a reference as 'in press' implies that the item has been accepted for publication.

Web references

As a minimum, the full URL should be given. Any further information, if known (DOI, author names, dates, reference to a source publication, etc.), should also be given. Web references should be included in the reference list.

Data references

This journal encourages you to cite underlying or relevant datasets in your manuscript by citing them in your text and including a data reference in your Reference List. Data references should include the following elements: author name(s), dataset title, data repository, version (where available), year, and global persistent identifier. Add [dataset] immediately before the reference so we can properly identify it as a data reference. The [dataset] identifier will not appear in your published article.

References in a special issue

Please ensure that the words 'this issue' are added to any references in the list (and any citations in the text) to other articles in the same Special Issue.

Reference management software

Most Elsevier journals have their reference template available in many of the most popular reference management software products. These include all products that support [Citation Style Language styles](#), such as [Mendeley](#) and [Zotero](#), as well as [EndNote](#). Using the word processor plug-ins from these products, authors only need to select the appropriate journal template when preparing their article, after which citations and bibliographies will be automatically formatted in the journal's style. If no template is yet available for this journal, please follow the format of the sample references and citations as shown in this Guide.

Users of Mendeley Desktop can easily install the reference style for this journal by clicking the following link:

<http://open.mendeley.com/use-citation-style/early-childhood-research-quarterly>

When preparing your manuscript, you will then be able to select this style using the Mendeley plug-ins for Microsoft Word or LibreOffice.

Reference Style

Citations and references should follow the guidelines in the APA Publication Manual.

Examples:

Reference to a journal publication:

Van der Geer, J., Hanraads, J. A. J., & Lupton R.A. (2000). The art of writing a scientific article. *Journal of Scientific Communications*, 163, 51-59.

[dataset] Oguro, M., Imahiro, S., Saito, S., Nakashizuka, T. (2015). Mortality data for Japanese oak wilt disease and surrounding forest compositions. Mendeley Data, v1. <http://dx.doi.org/10.17632/xwj98nb39r.1>.

Reference to a book:

Strunk, W., Jr., & White, E. B. (1979). *The elements of style*. (3rd ed). New York: Macmillan.

Reference to a chapter in an edited book:

Mettam, G.R., & Adams. L. B. (1994). How to prepare an electronic version of your article. In B. S. Jones & R. Z. Smith (Eds.), *Introduction to the electronic age* (pp.281-304). New York: E-Publishing.

Video

Elsevier accepts video material and animation sequences to support and enhance your scientific research. Authors who have video or animation files that they wish to submit with their article are strongly encouraged to include links to these within the body of the article. This can be done in the same way as a figure or table by referring to the video or animation content and noting in the body text where it should be placed. All submitted files should be properly labeled so that they directly relate to the video file's content. . In order to ensure that your video or animation material is directly usable, please provide the file in one of our recommended file formats with a preferred maximum size of 150 MB per file, 1 GB in total. Video and animation files supplied will be published online in

the electronic version of your article in Elsevier Web products, including [ScienceDirect](#). Please supply 'stills' with your files: you can choose any frame from the video or animation or make a separate image. These will be used instead of standard icons and will personalize the link to your video data. For more detailed instructions please visit our [video instruction pages](#). Note: since video and animation cannot be embedded in the print version of the journal, please provide text for both the electronic and the print version for the portions of the article that refer to this content.

AudioSlides

The journal encourages authors to create an AudioSlides presentation with their published article. AudioSlides are brief, webinar-style presentations that are shown next to the online article on ScienceDirect. This gives authors the opportunity to summarize their research in their own words and to help readers understand what the paper is about. [More information and examples are available](#). Authors of this journal will automatically receive an invitation e-mail to create an AudioSlides presentation after acceptance of their paper.

Data visualization

Include interactive data visualizations in your publication and let your readers interact and engage more closely with your research. Follow the instructions [here](#) to find out about available data visualization options and how to include them with your article.

Supplementary material

Supplementary material such as applications, images and sound clips, can be published with your article to enhance it. Submitted supplementary items are published exactly as they are received (Excel or PowerPoint files will appear as such online). Please submit your material together with the article and supply a concise, descriptive caption for each supplementary file. If you wish to make changes to supplementary material during any stage of the process, please make sure to provide an updated file. Do not annotate any corrections on a previous version. Please switch off the 'Track Changes' option in Microsoft Office files as these will appear in the published version.

Research data

This journal encourages and enables you to share data that supports your research publication where appropriate, and enables you to interlink the data with your published articles. Research data refers to the results of observations or experimentation that validate research findings. To facilitate reproducibility and data reuse, this journal also encourages you to share your software, code, models, algorithms, protocols, methods and other useful materials related to the project.

Below are a number of ways in which you can associate data with your article or make a statement about the availability of your data when submitting your manuscript. If you are sharing data in one of these ways, you are encouraged to cite the data in your manuscript and reference list. Please refer to the "References" section for more information about data citation. For more information on depositing, sharing and using research data and other relevant research materials, visit the [research data](#) page.

Data linking

If you have made your research data available in a data repository, you can link your article directly to the dataset. Elsevier collaborates with a number of repositories to link articles on ScienceDirect with relevant repositories, giving readers access to underlying data that gives them a better understanding of the research described.

There are different ways to link your datasets to your article. When available, you can directly link your dataset to your article by providing the relevant information in the submission system. For more information, visit the [database linking page](#).

For [supported data repositories](#) a repository banner will automatically appear next to your published article on ScienceDirect.

In addition, you can link to relevant data or entities through identifiers within the text of your manuscript, using the following format: Database: xxxx (e.g., TAIR: AT1G01020; CCDC: 734053; PDB: 1XFN).

Mendeley Data

This journal supports Mendeley Data, enabling you to deposit any research data (including raw and processed data, video, code, software, algorithms, protocols, and methods) associated with your manuscript in a free-to-use, open access repository. Before submitting your article, you can deposit

the relevant datasets to *Mendeley Data*. Please include the DOI of the deposited dataset(s) in your main manuscript file. The datasets will be listed and directly accessible to readers next to your published article online.

For more information, visit the [Mendeley Data for journals page](#).

Data in Brief

You have the option of converting any or all parts of your supplementary or additional raw data into one or multiple data articles, a new kind of article that houses and describes your data. Data articles ensure that your data is actively reviewed, curated, formatted, indexed, given a DOI and publicly available to all upon publication. You are encouraged to submit your article for *Data in Brief* as an additional item directly alongside the revised version of your manuscript. If your research article is accepted, your data article will automatically be transferred over to *Data in Brief* where it will be editorially reviewed and published in the open access data journal, *Data in Brief*. Please note an open access fee of 500 USD is payable for publication in *Data in Brief*. Full details can be found on the [Data in Brief website](#). Please use [this template](#) to write your Data in Brief.

Data statement

To foster transparency, we encourage you to state the availability of your data in your submission. This may be a requirement of your funding body or institution. If your data is unavailable to access or unsuitable to post, you will have the opportunity to indicate why during the submission process, for example by stating that the research data is confidential. The statement will appear with your published article on ScienceDirect. For more information, visit the [Data Statement page](#).

AFTER ACCEPTANCE

Online proof correction

Corresponding authors will receive an e-mail with a link to our online proofing system, allowing annotation and correction of proofs online. The environment is similar to MS Word: in addition to editing text, you can also comment on figures/tables and answer questions from the Copy Editor. Web-based proofing provides a faster and less error-prone process by allowing you to directly type your corrections, eliminating the potential introduction of errors.

If preferred, you can still choose to annotate and upload your edits on the PDF version. All instructions for proofing will be given in the e-mail we send to authors, including alternative methods to the online version and PDF.

We will do everything possible to get your article published quickly and accurately. Please use this proof only for checking the typesetting, editing, completeness and correctness of the text, tables and figures. Significant changes to the article as accepted for publication will only be considered at this stage with permission from the Editor. It is important to ensure that all corrections are sent back to us in one communication. Please check carefully before replying, as inclusion of any subsequent corrections cannot be guaranteed. Proofreading is solely your responsibility.

Offprints

The corresponding author will, at no cost, receive a customized [Share Link](#) providing 50 days free access to the final published version of the article on [ScienceDirect](#). The Share Link can be used for sharing the article via any communication channel, including email and social media. For an extra charge, paper offprints can be ordered via the offprint order form which is sent once the article is accepted for publication. Both corresponding and co-authors may order offprints at any time via Elsevier's [Webshop](#). Corresponding authors who have published their article open access do not receive a Share Link as their final published version of the article is available open access on ScienceDirect and can be shared through the article DOI link.

AUTHOR INQUIRIES

Visit the [Elsevier Support Center](#) to find the answers you need. Here you will find everything from Frequently Asked Questions to ways to get in touch.

You can also [check the status of your submitted article](#) or find out [when your accepted article will be published](#).

© Copyright 2018 Elsevier | <https://www.elsevier.com>