

Enabling the Child's Right to Play

- A Virtual Workshop Series

A Chance to Play South Africa (ACTP) offers a series of 6, 2-hour virtual sessions that take place via Zoom on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10 am – 12 pm for 3 successive weeks. The course is participatory and includes opportunities to share previous knowledge and experiences of play and to debate issues through chat and break-away rooms. Play activities are analysed to determine types of play and their benefits. The sessions interrogate how play can be made inclusive and how children's right to play can still be respected in a crisis such as the Covid Pandemic.

Play is one of the most important activities of childhood, yet it is one of the most neglected of all children's rights. (The Right to Play and Recreation – Article 31 of the UN Convention on the Rights of a Child). Research shows that the strongest indications of long-term success are the skills that cannot be taught, but are learnt through free, child-directed play e.g. leadership, teamwork, getting along with others, planning and organising, self-management, using initiative, creativity, problem-solving, decision-making, independence, confidence and communication skills.



it's
playtime

Who Will Benefit From Undertaking This Training?

It is our hope that those who undertake this training will commit to providing recreational play opportunities for their own families and in other environments where children of all ages and abilities can benefit from the opportunity to play. For example, parks, playgrounds, suitable open spaces, recess at school, after school clubs, child & youth institutions and holiday programmes.

Those that would benefit include:

- ✦ Youth leaders, after-school club facilitators, teachers at all levels, community workers, sport & recreation officers, parks department officers, parents, those involved with faith-based groups, playground developers and anyone who is passionate about making a difference in children's lives.
- ✦ Organizations working with children of any age or ability, especially vulnerable children.
- ✦ Unemployed youth known by the community with leadership potential and an interest in working with children who can then volunteer to become involved in/initiate play programmes.

Requirements:

- Competency in English
- Educational level: At least a matriculation certificate or equivalent
- Interest in learning more about play and its importance in a child's development
- Interest in working with children and making a difference in their lives

Course outline

The 6 sessions consist of the following modules:

What is play?	Reflections on own play; Defining Play; Benefits of and Threats to Play; Types of Play; Play for different levels of development.
The Child's Right to Play	United Nations Convention on Children's Rights, with a special focus on Article 31 – the Child's Right to Play and Recreation; African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of a Child – Article 12; UN General Comment 17 (2013) – what governments and parents must do to live up to their responsibilities around a Child's Right to Play
Big Group Games	The Art of leading (facilitating) Play; How to play various games; Games Sets; Planning Play
Free Play	Child Directed Play: Pretend Play; Construction Play; Loose Parts Play
Outdoor Play	Range of Play Activities for different ages and abilities; Playing in Nature; Risky Play; Child Participation; Child protection and safety during Play
Brain Games	Puzzles, board and card games, thinking games and activities; Taking care of games
Creative Art Activities	Painting, drawing, arts & crafts
Drama and Cultural Activities	Indigenous games
Making Play Happen	Advocacy and Lobbying; How can you, as an individual, help more play to happen – Play Forums; Play Clubs; Street Play; How to organise Play Days

Why is play so important?

-  **Develop my skills**
-  **Stretch my imagination**
-  **Solve problems**
-  **I share & interact with others**
-  **Makes me happy**
-  **I discover my interests & talents**

The cost is R600.00 per person for 6 sessions.



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Application form



Please fill in the following form:

Full name	
Date of birth	
ID number	
Cell No.	
Landline No.	
Email address	
Full physical address	
Postal Code	
Educational Level /Experience	

If you are representing an organisation:

Name of organisation	
Position in organisation	
Name of director	
Cell No.	

Share your thoughts about this training course

How did you hear about this virtual training workshop, if not from the website?

Why are you interested in attending the workshop?

How do you intend to use the knowledge, skills and understanding of play in the future?

Please indicate which training sessions you are interested in attending:						
March		May		July		September

**We look forward to your participation.
The children are counting on you!**

For more information, please contact:
Boipelo Lekwane and Cynthia Morrison
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+27 (0) 63 652 5016 (mobile)

Please submit your application as soon as possible with the email subject line:
ACTP Virtual Training Sessions application to: training@a-chance-to-play.org.za