

The Froebel Trust Autumn Lecture

LET THE CHILDREN PLAY

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HELSINKI

This talk:

- 1- The State of Play
- 2- The Power of Play
- 3 - The Renaissance of Play



SYDNEY

PLAY is an activity that is... intrinsically motivated

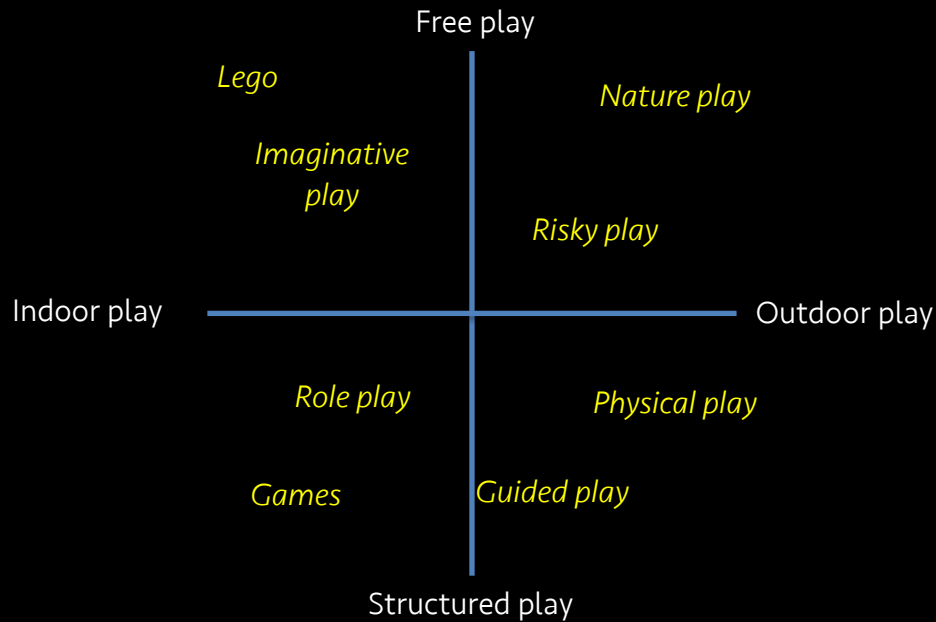
entails active engagement



results in joyful experience.



Types of **PLAY**



1. THE STATE OF **PLAY**

80% of parents believe that children are under pressure to grow up too quickly.

85%

of parents say kids today spend less
time **PLAY**ing than they did when
they were their children's age.

1 of 5 children say that they are too
busy to **PLAY**.

Renaissance of **PLAY**



C-19



PLAY deprivation

Long-term impacts of **PLAY** deprivation include:

- depression
- aggression
- reduced self-control
- poor resilience
- obesity

2. THE POWER OF **PLAY**

PLAY is essential for a children's social, emotional, physical, and cognitive development. It helps them to make sense of the world around them and discover the world within them.



DOCTOR'S ORDER: Children Must **PLAY**

*“**PLAY** is integral to a child’s education. The importance of playtime for children cannot be overemphasized to parents, schools, and community organizations.”*

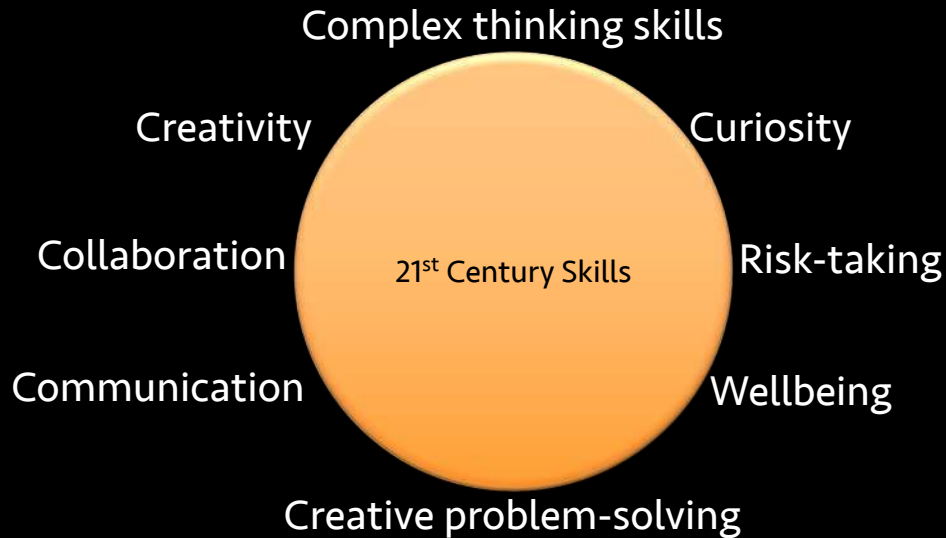


DOCTOR'S ORDER: Children Must **PLAY**

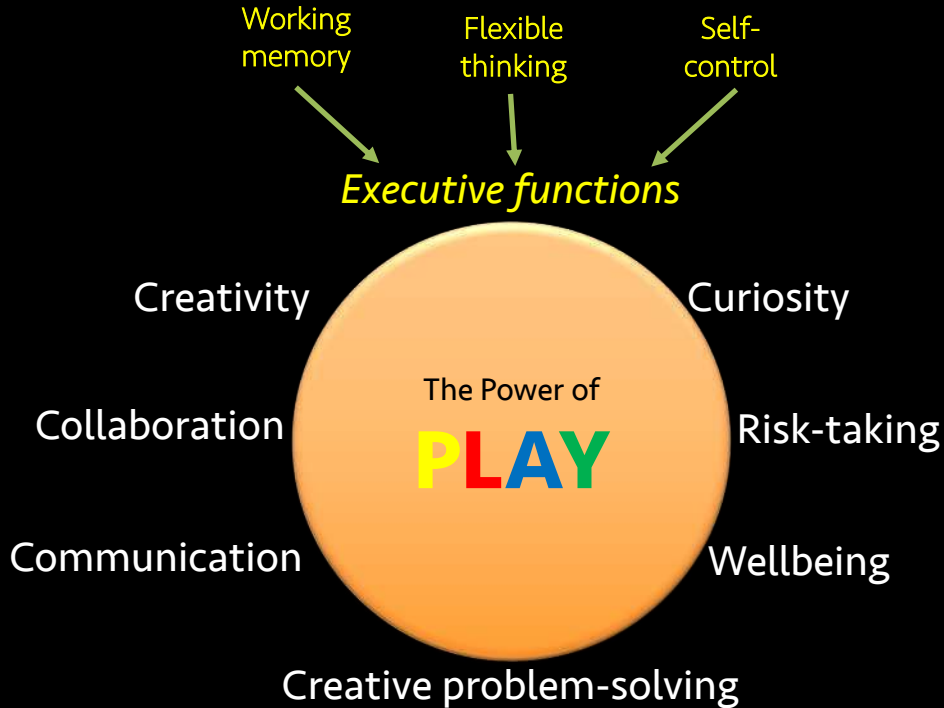
*“The lifelong success of children is based on their ability to be creative and to apply the lessons learned from **PLAY**ing.”*



21st Century Education



Multiple benefits of **PLAY**



3. THE RENAISSANCE OF **PLAY**

*“If you felt the benefits of **PLAY** when you were a child, I trust you will know in your heart why all children must feel them now.”*

– Sir Ken Robinson (in Let the Children Play)

CANADA:
Nature play

U.S.:
Return of Recess

NORDIC COUNTRIES:
The play culture

SCOTLAND:
Active play

ITALY:
Reggio Emilia
& Montessori

CHINA:
Anji play

AUSTRALIA:
Nature play



What can we do?

“Reintegrating diverse forms of play into children’s daily lives calls for a practical and concentrated plan of action to raise awareness and drive change.”

- In *“Let the Children Play”*

In memory of
Sir Ken Robinson PhD

1950 - 2020



What can we do?

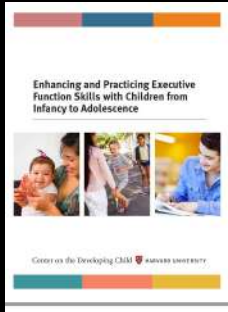
Protect **PLAY** as a basic right of every child

Make more time for **PLAY** in school and at home

Study the benefits of **PLAY** and then enlighten others

Give free outdoor **PLAY** a chance whenever you can

Resources



THANK YOU!

We don't stop playing because
we grow old; we grow old because
we stop playing.

George Bernard Shaw

