

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

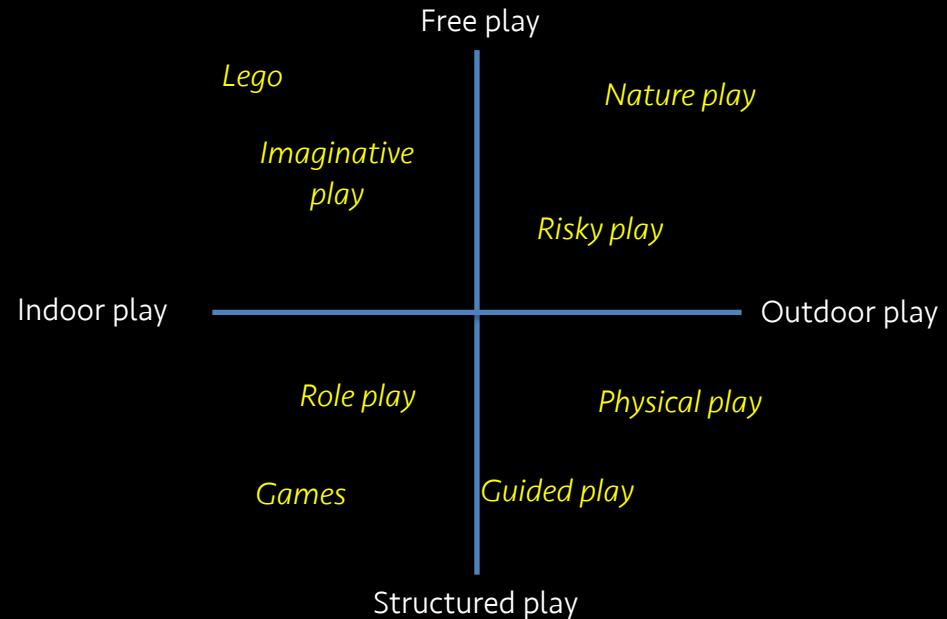
entails active engagement



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.

Source: Gonski Institute, 2019

85%

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

Source: Gonski Institute, 2019

1 of 5

children say that they are too
busy to **PLAY**.

Source: Lego Foundation, 2018

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.”

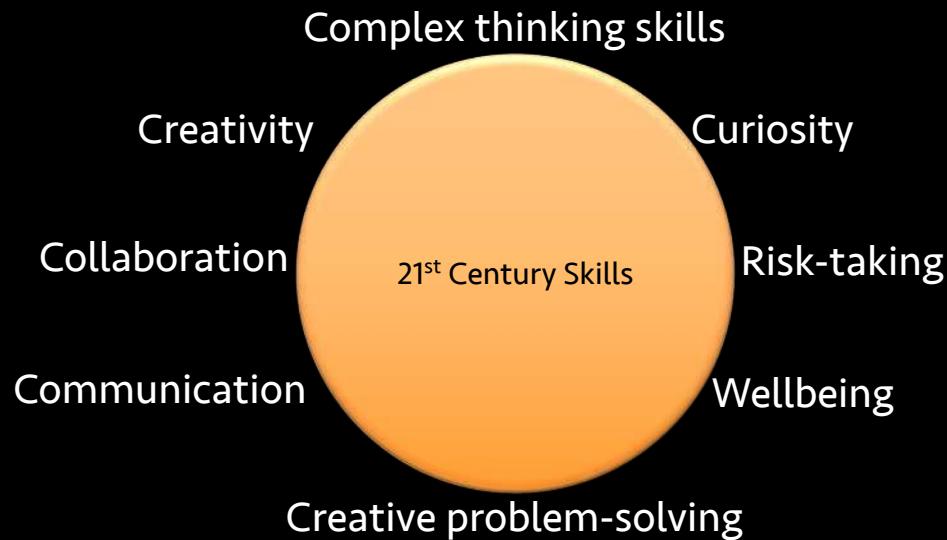


DOCTOR'S ORDER: Children Must **PLAY**

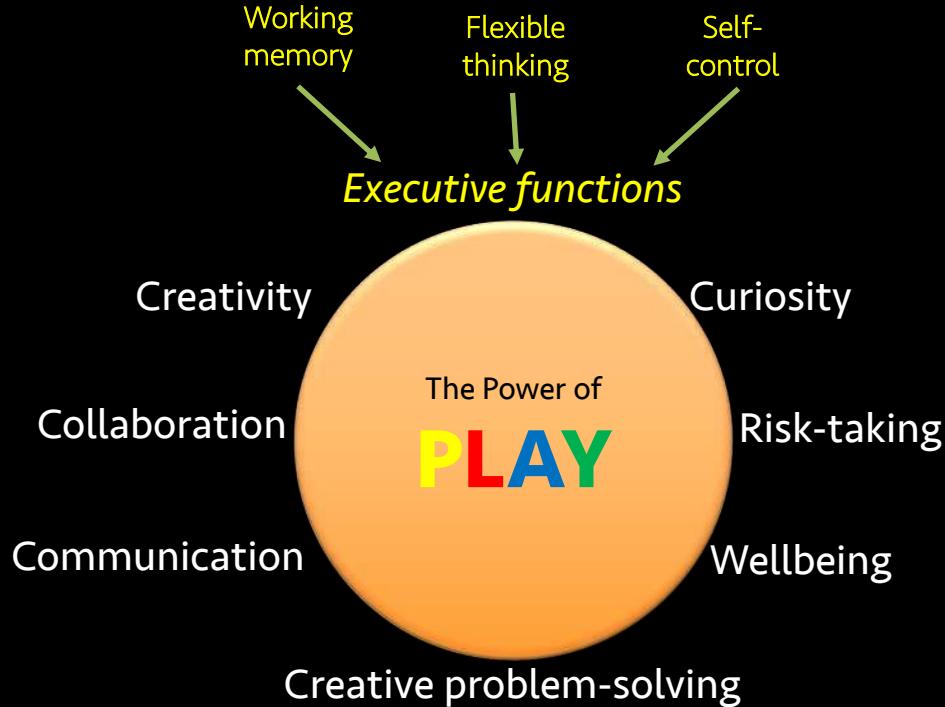
*"The lifelong success of children is based on their ability to be creative and to apply the lessons learned from **PLAYing**."*



21st Century Education



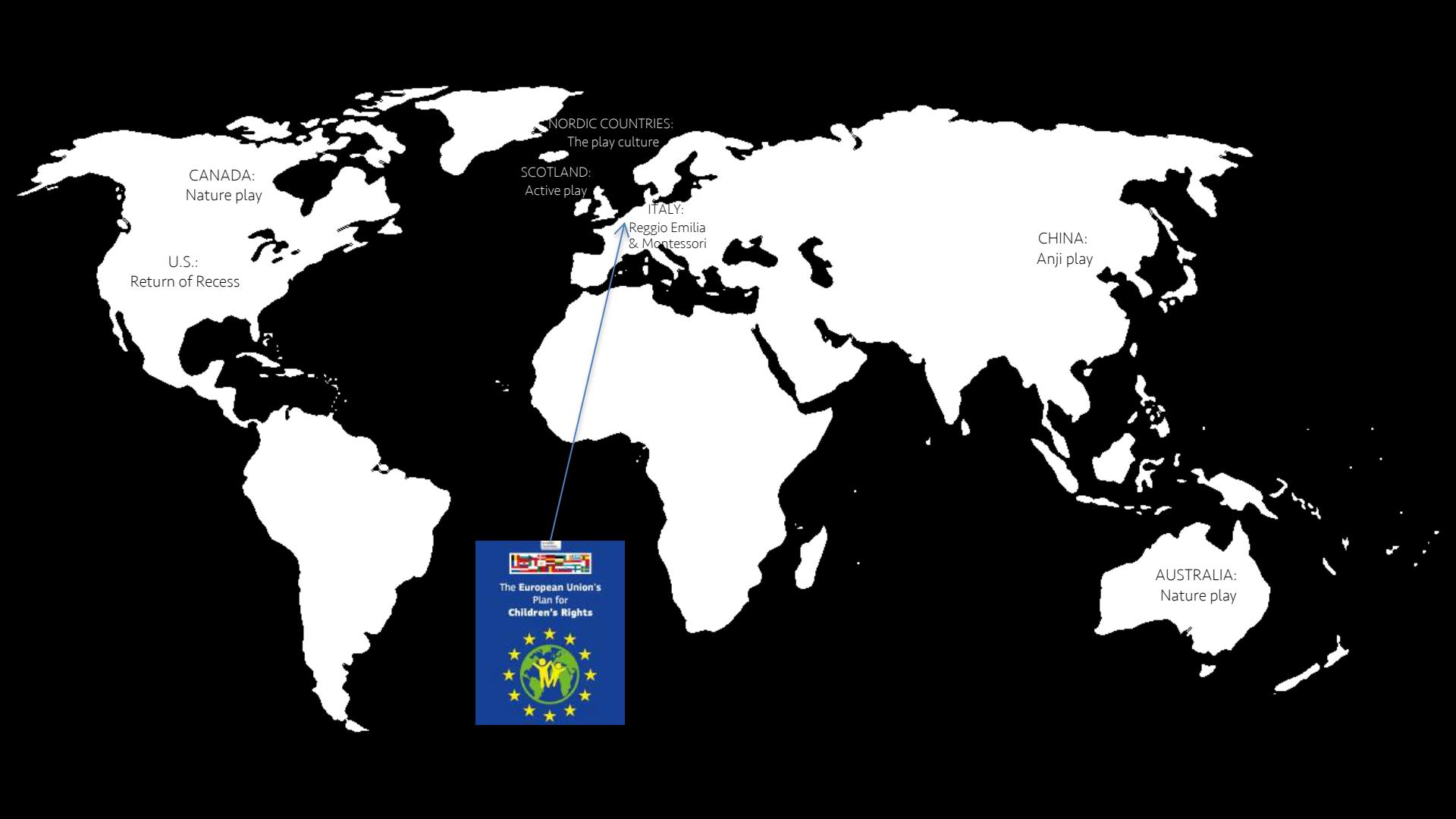
Multiple benefits of **PLAY**



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)



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?

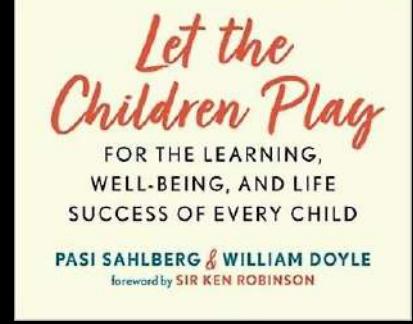
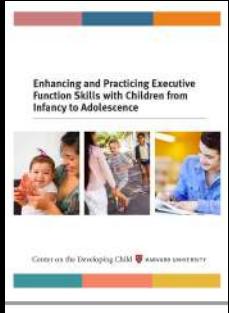
Protect **PLAY** as a basic right of every child

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

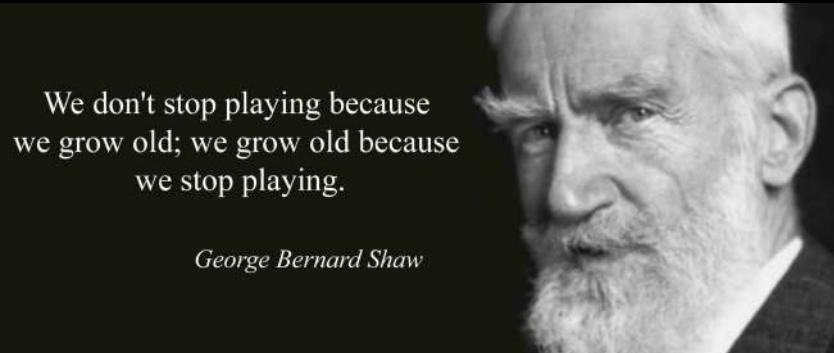
Study the benefits of **PLAY** and then enlighten others

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