



Alliance for Childhood

## **International Play Day**

to mark Universal Children's Day

Sunday 20th November 2016

On Sunday 20th November 2016 The international group of Alliance for Childhood is promoting an international Play Day that celebrates Universal Children's Day, the anniversary of the signing of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Our focus will be on children's right to play (Article 31) and on the child's right to be heard (Article 12). Children and adults around the world will join in this celebration.

### **Our goal**

Our goal is to contribute to increasing the awareness of the importance of play. We want to bring attention to the impact and consequences of children having less time for this activity during childhood in the world we live in now.

Children growing up today generally have far too little time or space for their own creative play. As a result we see in them decreasing levels of creativity as well as an inability to solve problems, work with others, and meet life with resiliency. There's an urgent need to restore a healthy balance in the lives of 21st century children.

### **Activities**

The activities of this Play Day brings about a union of people of ages and different cultures; play is an end in itself; this day should promote play in all its forms: moments with different toys, board games, outdoor games and initiatives such as exhibitions, lectures, debates; promote the practice of playing in public and private spaces, institutions, schools, on the streets and in the family.

### **What you can do**

You can organise a play day in your community for the children who are closest to you.

It can be in a morning, an afternoon or a day for children to play. Create time for free play, unstructured play in adventure playgrounds, parks, fields, woodland, streets or alternatively in spaces for games, music, visual arts, theatre, dance, circus, reading or storytelling. Whatever the weather, children love to play.

### **Ask the Children**

Ask the children involved to make a drawing describing where they like to go to play. This is for children up to 12 years of all social backgrounds. Take a photo or scan the drawing and email it to the organiser, giving the first name and age of the child and the place the drawing is of. You can find a list of national organisers on the website: [www.alliancechildhood/play](http://www.alliancechildhood/play)



### **The Alliance for Childhood**

The Alliance for Childhood is an international network of people and organisations whose aim is to raise awareness in society of the importance of a good and healthy childhood, promoting the development of human beings able to build a society based on a culture of peace, environmental sustainability and respect for all differences. For more information, visit our website: [www.alliancechildhood.org](http://www.alliancechildhood.org) or send an email to [info@alliancechildhood.org](mailto:info@alliancechildhood.org)