



## World Play Day Message 2016

The theme for this year's WPD has taken on new proportions for my immediate family. We range from 87 years old to just a few months. My husband and I represent the 80's, our children the 30's and 40's, twin grand daughters 17 years old and our dear little new grandson and playmate born to our son and daughter-in-law in October 2015. You will understand that we agree that "Play is for all ages".

On a somber note, in 2011, after the tsunami in Japan, I wrote about the values of play in times of trauma. Now, in 2016, never has the world been more in need of a means of coping with trauma in face of the horrendous succession of terror which has gripped the world in recent years. Perhaps as we promote and enjoy play on WPD this year we can include some thoughts or even some activities for those experiencing excessive trauma right now.

The information from our WPD coordinator Debbie Williams gives ample information of where to find details and resources for this year's WPD on the ITLA website ([itla-toylibraries.org](http://itla-toylibraries.org)) Facebook and the WPD website. Also the WPD Song (in its original recording!) can be found via the ITLA website. You are all welcome to make a new and more trendy version and submit your recording to the WPD website – I look forward to hearing it!

I continue to be amazed and grateful for the many and varied activities that are planned carefully and take place all over the world on WPD (do we know how many countries now?). I love to hear from you and apologise if I don't always reply.

It is too bad that we are not yet on the UN calendar, even so WPD is becoming a forceful advocate for the value of play in the world and

maybe someday "World Play Day May 28<sup>th</sup>" will appear in a United Nations Publication!

PLAY! KEEP PLAYING!! PLAY WORKS FOR GOOD!!!

Freda Kim  
Founder of WPD

PS. 2016 is the Year of the Monkey so I made this for my new little playmate,

