



WORLD PLAY DAY 2019

We celebrated children's right to play all around the world!



ITLA collaborated with the Lego Foundation, Mexico Juega, Papalote Children's Museum, and Save the Children to create the Play is a Right forum in Mexico City attended by more than 500 people. On May 28th, a declaration was made by the LEGO Foundation, and ITLA, stating:

"We call on the Mexican State to promote before the UN the designation of May 28th as International Play Day, encouraging the adoption of measures to promote protect, and guarantee this right."





We are on our way to making ITLA and Freda Kim's dreams possible!



ITLA President Monica Juarez, with the LEGO Foundation CEO, member of the Play Coalition in Billund, Denmark.



In BRAZIL, lots of adults joined the fun.



Great times in ARGENTINA!



Fun play in PORTUGAL



Traditional toys in MEXICO



Foam in the USA



Tracks in AUSTRALIA



Outdoor fun in CAMBODIA



Rings in KOREA





WPD founder Freda Kim attended festivities in Korea with Korean TLA President Young Sook Suh!

In celebration of [World Play Day](#), the Lego Foundation announces the results of a multi-country evaluation of the [Play Every Day](#) program by [Sesame Workshop](#) and [LEGO](#)

Foundation.

These findings show significant changes in perceptions of play, play-related behavior, and the confidence of caregivers in playing with their children. We're so proud that a team from ITLA Mexico was able to participate in the study and attend the forum!

Learn more here! <http://bit.ly/2EFFiAO>



Play ambassadors from Mexico. ITLA president Monica Jaurez is one of them!

ITLA RECOMMENDS...



Waldorf Toys



Waldorf toys are beautiful, simple, eco-friendly, and allow for development of imitative and imaginative play. These toys are often made from natural materials such as wood, organic cotton, wool, and silk. When a baby or toddler plays with these toys, they stimulate the senses allowing for sensory development. These days, many families are searching for natural and eco-conscious toys, and Waldorf toys generally fit that demand.

Aesthetic Appeal

Toys should be beautiful. When children have a lovely environment to play in, they can truly create wonderful, imaginative concepts. The materials Waldorf toys are made from are natural, aesthetically pleasing, and use a variety of rich colors.

Imagination and Imitation

Waldorf toys invoke imaginative and imitative play, cultivating creativity. Traditionally, Waldorf toys are minimalist-- lacking details, allowing the child's imagination to fill in the

the rest. Toys are open-ended, with no confinements to creativity. Children can easily pretend that objects are many different things, depending on what their play requires.



Play in the USA





There are eight "Lend & Learn" Toy Libraries in the state of Missouri. The well-established social services program equips safe locations in the area so that families can play freely together.

"We encourage open play that helps the children build social, emotional, cognitive, motor, and language skills," says Tammy Byington, Director. "We work hard to ensure that the programs continue from year to year since they give these families something they might not otherwise make a priority – that is, quality, open playtime."

The program serves families who live in multi-need communities and have little time for play. They provide opportunities for parents to connect with other parents, both during regular hours and at group events.

Its umbrella program has facilitated the opening of 12 toy libraries in nearby school districts. First Chance for Children also supported the opening of toy libraries at apartments and at the University of Missouri.

**Congratulations to FRANCE
on the 40th anniversary of their Toy Library Association (ALF)!**



Spotlight on...South Africa!



Toy libraries in South Africa serve children and families in so many different ways: In homes, on farms, in urban communities, in rural communities, and in public libraries. In this issue, we'll focus on urban and rural communities, as well as public libraries.

URBAN

The KenFac Toy Library in Kensington (Cape Town) has been operating for eight years. The Facility is a community initiative which services children and parents from all walks of life, ensuring that a solid foundation is laid in the lives of young children. KenFac is a member of the ECD Forum, which is a place to share ideas, tackle challenges appropriately, and offer support to other toy librarians.



RURAL

LETCEE (Little Elephant Training Centre for Early Education)

LETCEE currently manages eleven toy libraries in the rural communities of KwaZuluNatal-- three are mobile and eight are fixed. Various services are offered, including "come-and-play" sessions every day. Most children in these areas do not have their own toys. Many do not have the opportunity to play with toys with an adult who encourages active learning.

To ensure learning continues at home, and recognizing parents/caregivers as the children's primary educators, they also offer a lending service to the community members along with caregiver training. Parents/caregivers & children can come in to play with the toys, then receive training by the toy librarian.

Training topics covered include:

Learning through Play

Stimulating Children's Development

Making Toys from Found Materials

Positive Discipline

LETCEE has one mobile toy library that specifically focuses on children with disabilities (The Playable Pickup). The toy librarian runs inclusive playgroups, does home visits to educate community members on disabilities, and helps break down the stigma still strongly associated with

disabilities in these rural areas. The toy librarian also discusses developmental stimulation and the importance of accessing health care with parents.



PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Zwelethemba Public Library

Zwelethemba is a public library situated in a large township outside of Worcester in the Western Cape. Their come and play toy library caters to children of all ages.

On Wednesdays, organized groups of children come with their teachers and caregivers to enjoy various play opportunities. On Fridays after school and during school holidays, children all ages come and play at the toy library.



***** Don't forget about this amazing upcoming opportunity! *****



The International Toy Library Association (ITLA) invites you to the 15th International Toy Library Conference in Johannesburg, South Africa. The conference is planned and hosted by the **Toy Library Association of South Africa (TLASA)** in collaboration with Cotlands and ITLA.

TLASA and ITLA have planned an informative, thought provoking, exciting, and enriching experience. There will be plenty of opportunities to network, discuss, and explore topics relevant to the world of toy libraries.

Spanish translation will be available for all presentations and workshops.

Excursions include visits to toy libraries, an African braai (barbecue), tea party, and a musical theater experience. There will also be an abundance of delicious African cuisine.



**4 HRS EXPLORING INTERNATIONAL
TOY LIBRARY STANDARDS AND
TOY LIBRARIAN QUALIFICATIONS**

**08:30 TO 12:30
30 EUROS**



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**ITLA WORKSHOP
TUESDAY 9TH JULY 2019**

For the first time in ITLA history, there will be a workshop to explore international standards for toy libraries as well as qualifications for toy librarians. Please join us at this *extra* event on July 9th.



Questions about the conference?

-ITLA Website: <http://itla-toylibraries.org/home/2018/11/02/the-15th-international-toy-library-conference/>

Cotland's website: <https://www.cotlands.org.za/itlconference/>

-Email: itlconference@cotlands.org

Please invite others to join ITLA! Let them know that ITLA members receive a **discounted rate** on the conference in South Africa.



Just send your fellow toy librarians this link:

<http://itla-toylibraries.org/home/become-a-member/>



Please send us updates about your toy libraries! Are you having an event? Something to celebrate? Pictures to share? We want to feature you!



email: media.comunicacion@itla-toylibraries.org



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**International Toy Library Association / Asociación Internacional de Ludotecas / Association
Internationale des Ludothèques**

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