## World Play Day 2023



Playing towards sustainability



Some key thoughts,

Toy libraries are key players when it comes to creating a more sustainable world. In many countries toy libraries are started by recycling previously loved toys which reduces waste and landfill.

Recycling toys for use in a toy library is environmentally friendly and makes children aware to donate toys so other children can benefit from it. In Asia we are seeing toy recycling projects emerging where plastic toys are crushed and useful items such as chairs are made. This recycling project creates jobs, contributes to innovation and proceeds are used to support the work of the toy library.

As we celebrate World Play Day on 28 May we want to encourage toy librarians to think of activities that promote the sustainability of toy libraries. The activity ideas provided in this booklet are only thought starters and we look forward to hearing more about what you did as part of your celebrations. Let us play towards sustainability!

Toy Library Greetings Dr. Monica Stach ITLA President

# Play for Sustainability

#### Why?

This year World Play Day theme focuses on SUSTAINABILITY. In the midst of world climate crisis, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have never been more important. SDGs are a collection of 17 connected goals towards transforming our world. They were designed to be a "blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all" and part of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Each of the 17 goals strive for the global reduction of climate change, poverty, improved quality of education, health, and economic growth. The SDGs therefore provide guidance for addressing each of these goals worldwide. Most countries are experiencing climate crisis. This can only be addressed if we come together as one global community. What better way to transform our world than through play?







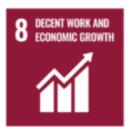




SUSTAINABLE CITIES

























### About World Play Day

The World Play Day (WPD) is a celebration to defend the Children's right to Play and emphasize the importance of playing for all. ITLA formally agreed to celebrate WPD at its 8th conference in Tokyo in 1999. The first WPD was celebrated in Korea in 2000 and France, where a play festival already existed and was transformed into the WPD. Korea for its part held the WPD by creating an event for children from an orphanage and other play groups. Korea also held a fundraising dinner for adults.

The World Play Day founder Dr. Freda Kim proposed May 28th as a recognition for the foundation of the International Toy Library Association which was formed that day in 1987.

Since 2000, the WPD defines a theme which is important according to the toy library's context. Each member is free to choose how to democratize the theme and different activities are proposed by our members. The last conference of ITLA was a decisive moment for us to redefine our WPD and from this year and until 2026 we will focus on different aspects of sustainability.

Originally the concept of sustainability focused on ecology and pollution, although the concerns about the subject appeared in the early 60s and the term was coined in 1930. The first formal recognition of the problem as a global concern is considered to appear in 1983 with the Brundtland report. Since then, sustainability is a concept that has evolved towards an holistic approach, in which everyone should make decisions taking into account the environment, social and governance.

Since we think that today more than before it is important to act for children's and younger's future, we invite you to think of your next WPD as a celebration in which you should propose a celebration which takes care of the environment, society and with the right governance to continue playing without negatively impacting the environment and the society.





Play Towards Sustainability

### **Event Guideline**

In relation to this year's WPD theme

(Playing towards Sustainability),

ITLA places emphasis on one or more of the 17 sustainable development goals.

It will be interesting to highlight one or more

R's of sustainability:-

Recycle, Reuse, Reduce, Repair, Redesign and Refuse.

### Ideas to promote the Sustainable Development Goals on World Play Day

#### **Awareness**

- Print the goals and display it in the toy library.
- Indicate which goals you promote by adding an arrow to the goals.
- Host an information session to help the community understand how play helps to achieve the sustainable development goals.

#### Games and play

- Create a couple of stations that allow children and adults to play together. This type of activity will link to a number of the sustainable development goals.

#### Recycle, Reuse, Reduce

- Encourage your community to drop off their previously loved toys at your toy library.
- Make toys from waste as part of your World Play Day celebrations.
- Start a recycling project at the toy library and encourage the community to support it.

- Ask the community to donate toys made from recycled materials to your





#### Repair

- Invite the community to come and play at the toy library and then set up stations where adults can assist to repair toys needing tender love and care.
- Ask corporates or volunteers to make their skills available on World Play Day by teaching the community how to repair a broken wooden then plan play activities around that.

#### Redesign

- Host a toy or game design workshop in your community for the first part of World Play Day.
- Only make recyclable materials available such as wood, bamboo, paper. In the second half of the day play with the toys and games and allow the designers to improve their design. As a follow up activity, you can host a toy making workshop where the toys or games can be reproduced for use in your toy library.

#### Refuse

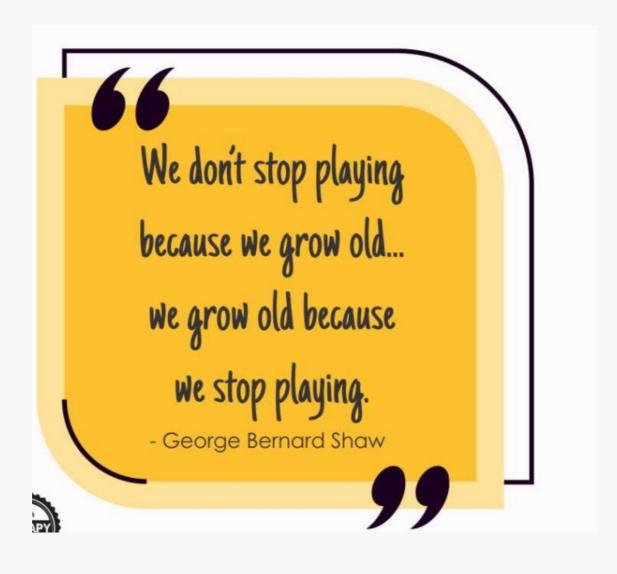
- Become a conscious consumer that purposefully seek to procure toys that can be recycled.
- Refuse to accept that children don't have the time and place to play and promote a variety of play activities on World Play Day.





"My thoughts this year are on the need to get out. Out of the house. Out of the office. Out even of the care home. The Covid 19 pandemic has forced us all to be inside for the past few years. Forcing us also to be more creative in the way we play and think about play. This year I hope you will be able to find a safe and spacious place for play outside. Our arms, legs and heads all need to get outside. Have a good day; Find a way To go out to play.

Freda Kim, founder of WPD born 1933 when we went out to play! "





www.internationaltoylibraryassociation.org