



**Lets Run Up the Hill Together and Fall  
Down Laughing  
The Value of Play in Teambuilding**

**Best Practice Professionalism**

**PDI Charlotte NC**

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# Play

## Fun, Joyful and just silly

"You can discover more about a person in an hour of play than in a year of conversation."

Plato

- Where do the children play?
- Where do adults play?



# Goals



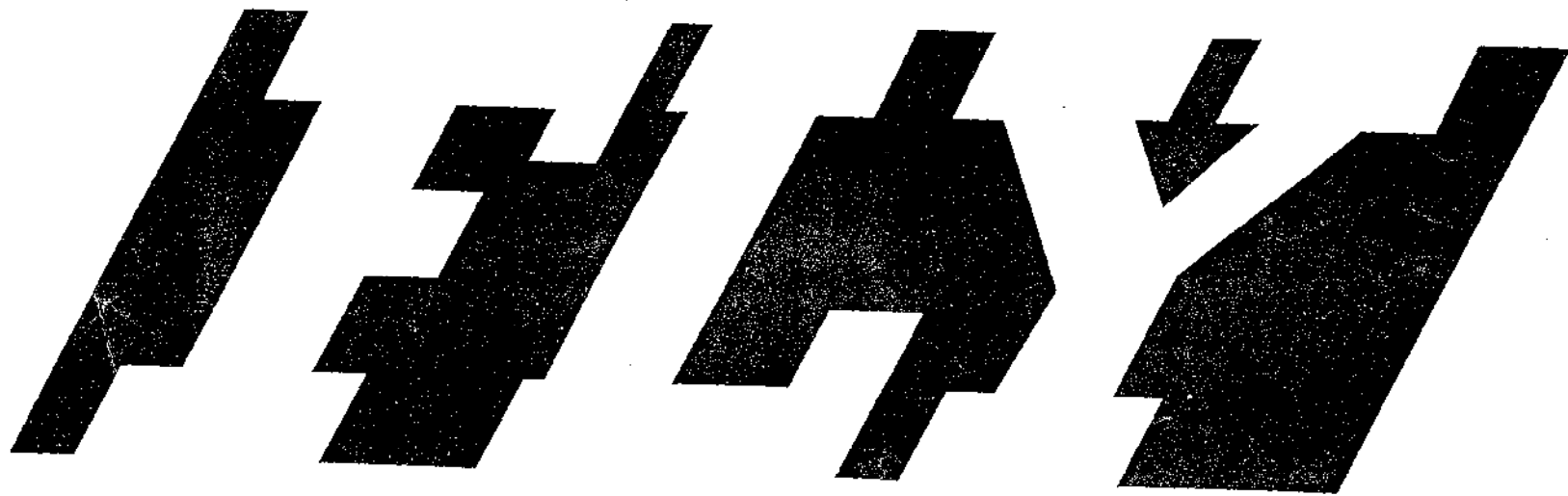
- **Increase communication**
- **Create gossip free work environments**
- **Grow respect for each other and the entire team**
- **Sustaining cohesive community**
- **Professional conflict resolution**
- **Living the Vision**

# Value of Play

- **Increased concentration**
- **Use of trial & error**
- **New creations from all kinds of materials**
- **Friendships are born, come to enjoy one another**
- **Shared experiences lead to a sense of community**

# Communication

- Verbal vs non verbal
- Blockades
- Open/Included
- Relate to others professionally
- Communicate and listen effectively
- Values / beliefs
- Missed messages
- Right to know
- Shared responsibility for open communication



# Create a Shared Vision

- What experience do you want at work?
- Create “It”
- Changing from external energy to internal/personal energy
- Real conversations



# Respect

- **Developing empathy for each other's teaching/learning styles**
- **Supportive**
- **Collaborative**
- **Cooperative**
- **Non alienating**
  - **Help new people be part of the vision**
- **Encouraging**



# Play ↔ Character



- **Playful = civility**
- **Spontaneity = freedom**
- **Open ended = problem solving**
- **Joyfulness = thoughtfulness**

# Listening

- Active
- Focus
- Stop our  
“to do list”
- Reflect back  
what you heard



# Professionalism

- Walk the talk
- Value of professional organizations
- When we work as a team we all grow as professionals
- NAEYC's Code of ethics

**"We are what we repeatedly do, Excellence is therefore not an act but a habit."**

**– Aristotle**

# What is needed for each player

- Sense of mission
- A need for new challenges
- Ability to focus on goals
- Awareness that consensus is strength
- Underlying faith in the game & oneself as a player
- Everyone is a coach



# Choose Your Attitude

- **No I in TEAM**
- **Value of team both in the classroom and the center**
- **Build on individual strengths not weakness**
- **Demonstrate a positive attitude, respond appropriately to praise, and give positive feedback**
- **Display trust in other team members**
- **Even a broken clock is right twice a day**

# Making it Real for YOUR Team



- Find your way
- Tell me more about that...
  - Open doors with question
- Learning about each other increases confidence and self awareness
- Sustaining Change
  - not just window dressing

# Closure

**“Individually, we are  
one drop.  
Together, we are an  
ocean.”**

**Coming together is a  
beginning**

**Keeping together is  
progress**

**Working together is  
success**

