



LET'S PLAY 2019 REPORT



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ALL FOR PLAY AND PLAY FOR ALL



Over the years, we have seen that the play spaces around us are shrinking. There is a dearth of time and space for children to come together and enjoy free play. As adults and as citizens, we feel that it is crucial to address this issue and create a movement to encourage citizens from all walks to come together to create play spaces and highlight the importance of play, which is essential for the mental and physical well-being of children and adults alike.

We have also seen that with the non-existing playgrounds in the neighborhood, the advent of smart devices, the changing social fabric with nuclear families and the ever demanding work life of parents; it's a continuous challenge to give attention to the child's as well as our own play needs. This November and every year, we gear ourselves for a mission - a mission that we think is very important to embark upon.

We, together with other play enthusiasts, initiate a campaign called 'Let's Play'. It is a campaign to entitle children to their natural avenues-play spaces and inspire adults who have lost their childhood, to relive the child in them! Let's Play encourages individuals to make time for play, create a space for play and connect through play.

Every year, hundreds of volunteers (individuals and organizations) have supported the movement and taken it forward to thousands of children, the elderly, professionals, community helpers and people from all walks of life.

This brief report captures the success of the Let's Play 2019 campaign, which was initiated in November 2019.

HIGHLIGHTS OF LET'S PLAY 2019

- ✓ The campaign kick started on November 7, 2019 and was extended till December 15, 2019.
- ✓ The play campaign reached out to over 5000 individuals across 40 locations in India, this year.
- ✓ Over 43 play hosts who are primarily college students, play facilitators and organisations, organised play events for different audiences such as children, the elderly, professionals, community helpers and people from all walks of life.

THE CURTAIN RAISER



This year's Let's Play campaign was special as we tried to make it as inclusive as possible. The campaign was launched at the World Differently-Abled Day celebration in the Mar Thoma Opportunity School, KR Purum in Bengaluru. A bunch of super talented and enthusiastic children showcased their talent in dancing and singing, very confidently on the stage. What can be more joyful than this? Let's All Play campaign 2019 spread to other spaces and settings with the same spirit and joy.

HEADSTREAMS PRACTISES WHAT IT PREACHES!



Being a pioneer of play, Headstreams integrates play in its everyday work environment. To mark the beginning of Let's Play 2019, team members at Headstreams' Bengaluru and Malur office organised quality play time. Fun and frolic was in the air.

PLAY STORIES



MOTHERS AT PLAY

“It’s a task to get mothers out of their homes from the middle of their hundred chores. Though many wanted to be a part of it, only six could make it on the scheduled day. It was already 9 pm and most of us were already at low fuel tank levels running behind toddlers, getting back from work, preparing meals etc. But within moments of beginning to play, the mood completely changed. There was so much energy and laughter in the air. The six of us not just played but bonded over very deep mommy conversations too! It was a refreshing break from the routine. We played Taboo, Guessing the pattern, and Building stories through pictures. We got just an hour but we all returned home joyful and wanting for more such play dates.”

Ruth Cheriyan, play host, Dubai



LI'L MUNCKINS WERE THE PLAY FACILITATORS OF THE DAY

This ‘Let’s Play’ story is indeed very sweet and special! Organised by a bunch of munchkins at their apartment complex in Bengaluru, the play date event was by them and for them! About 15 kids played games including ‘lotto’, ‘dobble’, ‘dumb charades’ and ‘follow the leader’. Excitement, laughter, noise and sweet fights made it a lively and playful evening to remember.



RUGBY THEMED PLAY DATE

Khelo Rugby in collaboration with Headstreams organised a Rugby themed play date for over 250 students and their teachers. Special thanks to the Khelo Rugby team for gifting the government school students of Morarji Desai Residential School in Madanahalli, Kolar, a fantastic play day. As shared by a play facilitator from Headstreams “the event helped our children experience a gist of the actual

Rugby game and everybody, including the teachers, had one of their best outdoor activities ever!”

A BREAK FROM CLASSROOM

Kudos to Headstreams play facilitators who organised several play dates for government school students. Hundreds of students across 13 schools participated in different activities, including games, dancing and singing. Students mentioned having “out of the world” experience as it was quality time spent with their friends and also with students of other classes. Ofcourse, who does not like playing?



PLAY DATE FOR THE GROWN UPS



“For the play date, I decided to do a jamming session and I invited my hostel friends in my room. We began with singing few songs of our choice. After that, we decided to make a video of two songs - *Somebody* by Enrique and *Soch na Sake*. This was a fun experience not just for me, but for all the four of us. They (hostelers) mentioned that it's the first time in their life that they were called for a play-date. In fact they suggested that we should

organise these sessions often. It certainly helped all of us to shed down our stress and we enjoyed thoroughly.”

Sanskar, a play host, India

PLAY THAT BROUGHT THE FAMILY TOGETHER

“I planned my play date with my sister, brother -in-law and a friend of ours. The reason I chose to spend a day with them was because often we get busy with our own lives and forget to spend time with the ones we love the most. This play date gave me a chance to bring everyone together and cut off from our mobile phones and busy schedule. We decided to play a game of snooker as it's something we all enjoy.”

Varsha Ashok, a play host, India

