



## LET'S PLAY 2018 REPORT

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## BRINGING BACK PLAY IN EVERYONE'S LIFE

Every year in November, we gear ourselves for a mission. It is a mission that we think is very important to embark upon. Over the years, we have seen that the play spaces around us are shrinking for children. 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.

Let's Play is an open event for all to come together and create a movement to remind ourselves the importance of play! It is a collective platform to entitle children to their natural avenues-play spaces and inspire adults who have lost their childhood, to relive the child in them! The event 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.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF LET'S PLAY 2018

Let's Play 2018 took place over a period 14 days starting from November 14, 2018 to November 28, 2018 with several mega-events organised with different organisations and corporates. This year is also special because alongside Let's Play 2018 event, Headstreams also partnered in a global campaign called Outdoor Classroom Day ([www.outdoorclassroomday.in](http://www.outdoorclassroomday.in)).

- No. of play hosts who organised play events at different locations : 50 +
- Total no. of participants: Over 9200
- Geography: Hosakote, Bengaluru, Kolar, Salem, Hosur, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Kolkata, Kerala, Mumbai, Dehradun, Chennai, Dubai
- Organisers and participants included-
  - ✓ NGOs and Foundations - Headstreams, Latika Roy Foundation, Childrens ' Homes, Aarohi Life Education
  - ✓ Students from colleges - Christ (Deemed to be) University, Aryan International School, Mount Carmel College, St. Joseph's College
  - ✓ Schools - Governments schools in Karnataka, schools for special children, low cost private schools
  - ✓ Corporate participants - VMWare, Riverbed Technology, Infoblox, Aspire Life Technico Sports , Aspire India and FSV Arena, Riverbed Technology

# SPECIAL EVENTS

Some of the special Let's Play events organised include-

- Let's Play event with VMware India team at Mar Thoma Opportunity School for special children
- A football event, in collaboration with Technico Sports, Aspire India and FSV Arena
- A play event in a low budget private school with Riverbed Technology

## Let's Play 2018 Special - A Day in the Life of a Footballer!

Headstreams, Technico Sports , Aspire India and FSV Arena partnered together to bring the students of United Mission Middle School to experience how is it being a footballer in action!

Over 40 students were brought to a professional football ground, FSV Arena in Bengaluru. Students were given a tour of the locker rooms, went through warm ups and team building activities , interacted with the coach and other football players and got to play football with these professional players. The students were so thankful for the new experience that they could not stop hugging the players and taking their autographs!





## EXPERIENCES FROM THE EVENT

“Children and staff of the Dehradun-based foundation called Latika Roy Foundation, had an amazing time playing, laughing, singing and running yesterday at a space generously made available at the Doon School. Our kids had a wonderful day to remember. Hard to say if Latika Roy Foundation children or grownups had more fun playing yesterday!”

**Jo Gowan Chopra, Latika Roy Foundation, Dehradun**



“We had a great time celebrating play at our office. About 120 members from different teams played games from our school days including games like potato sack race, acid rain, pass the grenade and tug of war. The participation was great, people had great fun playing together and bonding as a team. We ended the day with water balloon fight, snacks and refreshments all lasting well over 2 hours”

**Mohit Shetty , Infoblox, Bengaluru**

“Headstreams will always have a special place in my heart coz it taught me what Play really means.. and to relive those wonderful memories I set out to gather the residents of our community to come out and play... though I was apprehensive of the turn out and how to manage everyone on my own... it ended up being a lovely fun and laughter filled evening... playing with the young and young at heart”

**Ruth Cheriyan, Dubai**



“Children are children and adults are just overgrown children” says Mina Dilip

Mina, a practitioner offering therapy for children, adolescents and adults in Chennai, organised several play dates for children, teachers and even pets! At the school where she works, she played using masks, clay and puppets with groups of children. She also organised a group play session for teachers and school admin staffs who played with balloons and were engaged in different games and activities. She had a blast playing with her son and other children at her apartment and in her clinic. “We should never give up playing as our inner child is alive and always ready to play!”  
**Mina Dilip , Practitioner, Chennai**

