



Play in Schools for Teachers and Therapists

Professor Karen Stagnitti and Dr Louise Paatsch

Tuesday 24th January 2017
9:00am - 4:30pm

Geelong Library & Heritage Centre
51 Lt. Malop Street, Geelong VIC 3220
Level 5 Wurdi Youang South

ABOUT

Play in the classroom is controversial as the link between a child's play ability and education is not always immediately clear. This workshop combines the expertise of Karen Stagnitti (play) with Louise Paatsch (language and literacy and education) to bring to teachers and therapists ideas and explanations of why and how to embed play in the classroom. This workshop will cover why play is relevant to learning and the classroom, how to assess and report progress in play ability, how to link play ability to language and literacy, and how to embed play in the classroom to extend children's language and literacy.

This one day workshop is a very practical and hands on workshop with examples linking play abilities to the Australian curriculum. This workshop would be valuable to professionals who work in schools and are interested in play, language and literacy.

PRESENTER PROFILE - KAREN STAGNITTI

Professor Karen Stagnitti currently works as Professor, Personal Chair at the School of Health and Social Development at Deakin University, Victoria, Australia. She graduated with a Bachelor degree in Occupational Therapy from the University of Queensland. For over 30 years she has mainly worked in early childhood intervention programs in community-based settings as part of a specialist paediatric multidisciplinary team.

In 2003 she graduated from LaTrobe University with a Doctor of Philosophy. Her area of research is children's play. Karen has written five books on play. She also has over 80 national and international papers published as well as 20 book chapters. Her norm referenced standardised play assessment, the Child-Initiated Pretend Play Assessment was published in 2007. From this research, the Learn to Play approach to building play ability in children was developed through clinical work. Throughout the year, she is invited to present her work on the play ability of children nationally and internationally. Currently she teaches into the Master of Child Play Therapy at Deakin University.

PRESENTER PROFILE - LOUISE PAATSCH

Dr Louise Paatsch is the Associate Head of School (Research and Research Training) in the School of Education at Deakin University in the Faculty of Arts and Education. Her teaching focuses on the areas of language development, and literacy teaching and assessment. She teaches in both undergraduate and postgraduate courses in early childhood and primary education.

Louise's research interests include investigating pragmatic skills and conversational competence in children with hearing loss and their hearing peers; inclusive education; and eliterature, multimodal and multiliteracies practices in primary schools. She is currently working on a number of research projects including: (1) Creative, critical, digital: Connecting home-school literacies; (2) Play-based program in the first year of schooling, which is investigating the association between children's play and their oral language skills; (3) Teachers' Talk, which looks at teacher pedagogy in stimulating oral language development in young children in preschool contexts and the early years of school in vulnerable communities; and (4) CONVERSATION: A model for supporting children's pragmatic skills.

COST

\$320 (GST incl.)

Registration opens Monday 7 November 2016. Please register online at www.learntoplayevents.com/events