



Learn to PLAY  
Workshops  
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# Play in Schools for Teachers and Therapists

1 Day Workshop 23 JAN 2019

Karen Stagnitti + Louise Paatsch

WED 23rd JANUARY 2019

9:00am - 4:30pm

Rendezvous Hotel Melbourne

328 Flinders St, Melbourne VIC 3000

President's Room

## 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.

Participants will be taken through the Pretend Play Checklist for Teachers as a criterion referenced assessment for how to assess and report on a child's play ability. This training will be supported by case studies.

The workshop will also incorporate research carried out with specialist/SDS schools as well as mainstream schools where play programs have been trailed or carried out. Learnings from these research projects will be shared with participants.

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'S PROFILE - KAREN STAGNITTI

Up until December 2018 Karen Stagnitti was Professor, Personal Chair at the School of Health and Social Development at Deakin University, Victoria, Australia. She has retired from university and now concentrates on workshops and writing. She graduated with a Bachelor degree in Occupational Therapy from the University of Queensland. For over 35 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 over 120 publications, including journal articles, book chapters, and books. She has developed several play assessments including: Child-Initiated Pretend Play Assessment, the Pretend Play Enjoyment Developmental Checklist and the Animated Movie Test. From this research, Learn to Play Therapy was developed. Throughout the year, she is invited to present her work on the play ability of children nationally and internationally.

## PRESENTER PROFILE - LOUISE PAATSCH

Associate Professor Louise Paatsch is the Associate Head of School (Research) 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, and supervises many doctoral students in the areas of early childhood and primary education.

Louise's research interests include investigating young children's oral language skills; teachers' talk patterns that are supportive of children's oral language; pragmatic skills and conversational competence in children with hearing loss and their hearing peers; inclusive education; and teachers as researchers. She has many peer-reviewed publications including books, book chapters and journal articles, and has presented at both national and international conferences. Over the past 5 years, Louise has worked with Professor Karen Stagnitti on a number of research projects and they have developed the Pretend Play Checklist for Teachers.

## COST

\$345 (GST incl.) includes pre-workshop refreshments, morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea, and all workshop resources.

**Registration now open. Please register online at [www.learntoplayevents.com/events](http://www.learntoplayevents.com/events)**