



No.12 International sources of Information on Play

This Factsheet lists selected international organisations and web-based resources on children's play. Information on organisations based in the United Kingdom can be found in the factsheet *Key Sources of Information on Children's Play*.

Children's right to play

United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

An international convention setting out the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of children. Article 31 of the convention sets out the child's right to "engage in play and recreational activities".
<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/law/crc.htm>

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights: Committee on the Rights of the Child

The Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) is the body of independent experts that monitors the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child by its state parties
<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crc/>

International Play Association (IPA)

IPA is an international non-governmental organisation with members in almost 50 countries, including England, Wales and Northern Ireland (EWNI). It aims to protect, preserve and promote the child's right to play as a fundamental human right. IPA has consultative status with UNICEF and representatives at the United Nations in New York and Geneva.

<http://www.ipaworld.org>
<http://www.ipa-ewni.org.uk>

Right to Play

An athlete-driven international humanitarian organisation that uses sport and play as a tool for the development of children and young people in the most disadvantaged areas of the world. Right to Play works closely with local communities to help set up the networks and infrastructures necessary to support sustainable local ownership of their sport and play programmes, currently implemented in 22 countries. Its headquarters is based in Toronto, Canada.

<http://www.righttoplay.com>

Alliance for Childhood

The Alliance for Childhood promotes policies and practices that support children's healthy development, love of learning, and joy in living. The Alliance's Restoring Play Project involves a multi-pronged approach: a campaign to restore creative play and hands-on learning in kindergarten and preschool education; a focus on playwork to help adults learn how to support children's play on school playgrounds and in parks, children's museums, and other out-of-school environments, research on the current status of play, and resources for parents and educators. The Alliance has partner organisations worldwide, including the UK.
<http://www.allianceforchildhood.org>

Research on play

The Association for the Study of Play (TASP)

A multidisciplinary organisation, based in the United States, which aims to promote the study of play, to support and cooperate with other organisations with similar aims, and to organise meetings and publications that facilitate the sharing and dissemination of information related to the study of play. TASP holds annual meetings, and publishes a newsletter and the annual *Play and Culture Studies*.
<http://www.csuchico.edu/kine/tasp>

Children's Environments Research Group (CERG)

A branch of the Center for Human Environments at the City University of New York, CERG aims to provide a link between university scholarship and the

development of policies, environments and programmes that fulfil children's rights and improve their quality of life. CERG members collaborate with international agencies, and research areas include play and children's use of the environment.
<http://www.cerg1.org>

Children, Youth and Environments (CYE) - Center for Research and Design

The CYE Centre, based in Colorado, works with the design professions and allied disciplines to contribute to the health, safety and welfare of children and young people, through research, teaching and community outreach. The centre is also the Secretariat of the online journal, *Children, Youth and Environments*.
<http://thunder1.cudenver.edu/cye/>

Children, Youth and Environments (CYE) - Journal

Children, Youth and Environments is a refereed journal dedicated to improving the lives of young people. It is published twice a year and is freely available online, although a small contribution is encouraged. Through its website, the journal also provides a searchable bibliographic database, directories of individuals and organisations and a number of articles and papers from other sources.

<http://www.colorado.edu/journals/cye>

International Toy Research Association (ITRA)

The International Toy Research Association (ITRA) was founded in 1993 to exchange research on toys and play, to collaborate on

multicultural studies of toys, to be a source of expert opinion about toys for the media, consumers, and the toy industry, and to contribute to public understanding of the importance of toy play. ITRA holds world meetings every three years.
<http://www.toyresearch.org>

Play & Folklore

Play & Folklore is a web-based journal published by the Australian Society & Technology Department, Museum Victoria. It is a forum for discussion about childhood and children's culture, and publishes articles, letters, memoirs and research studies that examine children's colloquial speech, songs, games, rhymes, jokes and secret languages.
<http://museumvictoria.com.au/About/Books-and-Journals/Journals/Play-and-Folklore/>

Design and planning for play

Child Friendly Cities

The Child Friendly Cities (CFC) initiative was launched in 1996 to act on the resolution passed during the second United Nations conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) to make cities liveable places for all. The CFC Secretariat is based at the UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre, and serves as a focal point for gathering and standardising CFC methods and techniques. The CFC website contains a set of resources to guide those involved in building child friendly cities, including the CFC toolkit, projects and publications, and other information materials.
<http://www.childfriendlycities.org>

Project for Public Spaces (PPS)

A non-profit organisation dedicated to creating and sustaining public spaces that build communities. Programme areas include parks squares and transport. The PPS website mainly provides information on public spaces and parks in the United States, but international examples are included.
<http://www.pps.org>

Sansehaver

Helle Nebelong is a Danish landscape architect specialising in the design of natural spaces for children, young people with disabilities and older people. Sansehaver is the name of her company and on its website there are examples of some of her internationally renowned projects. In English and Danish.
<http://www.sansehaver.dk>

Barnas Landskap

Barnas Landskap (Children's Landscapes) is a Norwegian network, led by Frode Svane, which focuses on the interests of children in the planning of outdoor play and recreation spaces. The website contains examples of natural play spaces and environments, school playgrounds and other playgrounds. It also links to an earlier website with additional visual and written materials in both English and Norwegian.
<http://www.barnas-landskap.org>
<http://home.c2i.net/swan/>

**Compiled by Anna Kassman
McKerrell
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The Children's Play Information Service produces factsheets and student reading lists on a variety of play topics, and can also provide customised reading lists in response to individual requests.

Children's Play Information Service
NCB
8 Wakley Street
London EC1V 7QE
Tel: 020 7843 6303/6026
Fax: 020 7843 6007
Email: cpis@ncb.org.uk
www.ncb.org.uk/cpis

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