HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION'S **PROJECT ZERO** PRESENTS

LET'S PLAY: TEACHING STRATEGIES FOR PLAYFUL LEARNING

A 5-WEEK PEDAGOGY OF PLAY MINI COURSE March 2 - April 5, 2020



Play is central to how children learn: the way they make sense of the world; the way they form and explore friendships; the way they shape and test hypotheses about their intellectual, social, emotional, and physical environments. Yet incorporating play into a classroom or formal school setting isn't a straightforward endeavor, as the nature of play and the nature of school are often at odds.

Course Description In this mini course, participants will consider some core principles and practices of playful learning. Through hands-on activities, illustrations from classroom practice, and experimenting with playful learning and teaching tools, participants will explore ways to bring more playful learning into their contexts. Key questions will include: *What does learning through play look and feel like? How can a shared understanding of learning through play enhance a learning experience? How can educators create conditions in which playful learning can thrive?* Discussion will consider the opportunities and challenges of incorporating play into the classroom and will draw on teacher-researcher practices developed through the Pedagogy of Play research initiative at Project Zero and partnering educators in Denmark and South Africa.

Course Structure The course is team-based and registration is for teams of 3-5 people. We recommend that team participants work at the same school or organization; however, this is not a requirement for admission. If you are an individual interested in participating in the course but you do not have colleagues who are able to join you, please read more about how to apply for limited spaces on "virtual teams" on the PZ website. All participants should be prepared to learn about some of the core principles and practices of playful learning and try out at least one playful learning approach in their own contexts. Project Zero researchers will instruct the course and educators experienced in playful learning will serve as coaches for each team.



March 2 - April 5, 2020

Team Registration Only (3-5 ppl per team), \$130 per team member. In-person teams recommended. Virtual teams by request.

Registration/Payment Deadline: Dec. 13, 2020 pzero.in/popmar2020-p



Instructed by Project Zero researchers Ben Mardell and Jen Ryan

Limited scholarships are available to support educators working in under-resourced contexts and/or with historically marginalized students. Criteria and application instructions are available at the link below:

