



To: Subject Advisors  
: Teachers  
: Parents and Caregivers of NS Tech Learners

**Topic:** Playing for learning

**Message Objective(s):** To discuss the pedagogy of playing for learning in South Africa.

Our children often come home tired from the daily rigour of strict classroom regime and the formality of the schooling environment. They need to loosen up and relax through **playing** when home.

Play is a social function which enables learners/children encounter the world, develop their own understanding, make interactions with peers and the environment and build knowledge.

As caregivers we can tap into this wealth of opportunity by engaging children in playing which provides meaningful learning. Mari Montessori describes **play as the work of the child**.

An article from the Sandbox Blog highlights three elements of playful learning in the SA context;

### 1. Ownership

- Builds sense of responsibility, collaboration and building of ideas. Fosters critical thinking and problem solving skills.

### 2. Curiosity

- Cures boredom and invokes the necessary energy to know and discover new things. Boosts creativity and innovation.

### 3. Enjoyment

- Learners are always keen to do what they enjoy. Enjoyment and fun are crucial in bolstering intrinsic motivation.

There will be further discussion on the concept playful learning in the coming messages.

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Reference: <https://sandboxblog.home.blog>

: <https://youtu.be/4qmoSSvel28>