

## PLAY AS CONSTRUCTIVE CREATIVITY FACTOR IN CHILDREN lecture transcript

Laura Herceg, prof.:

For the final lecture,  
we have the youngest lecturer in last 20 years.

Our main goal has always been to encourage quality work, to highlight laborers working with children, their crafts, work process, which is extremely important for the motivation of children.

Tedin did not have the opportunity to work for a full year at a kindergarten as employee.

However he is exceptionally gifted student,  
and by his gift and work during this three years of study, he was selected, for the first time that the student gives a lecture.

So that, this year, for the twentieth anniversary we make breakthrough with someone younger

with no kindergarten employee work experience, but with great thrive in soul and strong wish to bring positive change in work with children...

today he will receive opportunity to give lecture:  
PLAY AS CONSTRUCTIVE CREATIVITY FACTOR IN CHILDREN

I wish him a successful lecture!

Tadija Tedin Dovoda ([personal web link](#)):

Hello everyone!

First of all, I would like say thanks to Professor Laura Herceg in Faculty of Teacher Education in Rijeka.

I'm thankful for such great honor and pleasure that I can stand here in front of You in the city Museum Rijeka.

Here I would also like to say that I'm thankful to my Grandma. She knew how to encourage me, to call me "Grandmas sun. Sun that is shining up above crying and dark clouds, Up above the world so high."

"Ever and ever forever."

She taught me how children have special place in our lives, and I hope I will say more about that special place through this lecture.

Place where children can be mentors and true experts on how to learn, how to play and how to love.

Here is extremely important to emphasize that children learn best with play.

So. How to start this lecture? How to justify trust given to me? How in the same time be playful?

...and I said to myself, we are in museum so let's start from museum.

Here is museum in France. Ceiling showing "Dedal & Icar".

They had a difficult task and they used their creativity to rise high above that difficulties.

Today, here, we discuss how fine arts are changing world, and there we can see the moment of failure.

And then, we adults say, ok, it is what it is, end of story. You know, you fall, and it is the end of the story.

Then the wings are sacrificed on the altar of some big god, and so on, and so on, as it goes on in story of Dedal & Icar.

After that conclusion, we (adults) say: "It simply is what it is. There are too many difficulties. That's reality as we see it. There is no place for wings."

...and end of one story is often beginning of another one.. And in this story, play comes to change the world. I invite You to see that reality.

In this story we can upgrade and uplift our lives.

How?

Children are experts in this field of play and we should let them lead the way.

Today We do live in dark ages of humanity.  
World H.O. claims that the depression will be one of leading health issue till 2020.

Surrounded by depression, how do we feel?  
Can we rise above difficulties or not.?.

Is there simple solution for all this?  
Is there something for upgrading our brain?

It's a Puzzle  
- if we see only one puzzle and we don't see the big picture. ;)

Then we say: "This one puzzle is all that there is. There is no big picture."

The same here: "There are only thorns, there is no rose."

If we try to see big picture we will see the play.

There are numerous science experts in field of play.

Vygotski: "in play it is as though he were a head taller than himself".  
(...it is as upgraded in play)

On the other side, there are experts that show what is our state in fear. Let's call it "Effect of degrading".

Not only that we are not on our human level, but we are degraded in fear.

Vygotski had discovered this without advanced neuroscience technology.

Neuroscience technology shows us that when we are in play, that process of play lights up parts of the brain that makes us more humane, and on the other side when we are in fear that parts of the brain calms down. Like that is not there.

Most of our time we are not in upgraded state of play.

Discovery of actor F. Matthias Alexander in drama methodology brings us to let's call it: "Free from fear" drama method 1904. y. in London.

Although not before fear strike him so strong that he could not speak. Fear degraded him in actor who could not talk.

His method starts with body posture, nonverbal self talk, to start inner voice. It starts with nonverbal posture of bravery, of play.

Similar effect starts with self smiling. Fake it till you make it. Then smiling body chemistry emits serotonin that we also call drug of happiness.

So change in mind can start with change in body.

Theory of choice (William Glasser) can have strong application here.

Crisis is now here.

Even in year 1894. there was big ecology crisis, and political committee predictions were brown dark...

allow me to say, with my deep respect to this institution of city Museum Rijeka, brown dark as The Great Horse Manure Crisis of 1894.

But then there comes Henry Ford with "Ford model T" idea and he started a revolution...

Of course, in such case fearful authority predicts: "It did not work in that way till now and it will not work in that way from now on...it's only a novelty."

It was difficult, to raise above the muddy roads that trapped cars in that time, and to see other possibility. Possibility to drive around in a car.

Upgrade with idea, constructive creativity, play in big picture.

We have to learn how to make free that idea.

We have to see how that idea comes to be free.

We have to observe this process of play, and we should be proud to play, because that process makes us more human.

But we tend to put play down under, saying "You know, I'm slightly too old to learn".

On the other side, there is quote: "One who thinks he is too old to learn, was thinking the same when he was younger".

Child learn and upgrades through play.

Today science is more and more interested in play. One of examples is book: "Play" by Stuart Brown, where it stands:

"Lab managers at JPL discovered, object play with hands creates a brain that is better suited for understanding and solving problem of all sorts."

Hand motor skills and early motor skills may affect language development.

All benefits of play can not be covered in one short lecture.

Now here is play in big picture, and maybe now we can more appreciate play.

All this in one small ordinary play.

Interesting fact with that small ordinary play is that it is something, what have been evolved in nature for a very long time.

Even one small ordinary sun, when constructively observed, offers much more, a future cure may be light.

So let's play outdoor, let's return to nature.

Notable:

Through juggling projects, children have shown progress in multiple areas. They are less aggressive. They have a better concentration, they are able to learn better. Now we know source for all that.

Let's return to the beginning story of this lecture: The Flight.

My favorite play as small boy living near sea is swimming and in the same time play pretend to be in The Flight (I felt free as a bird).

...and then I heard message of fear given to small tourist children: "if you are not listening you will fall into sea"... "YOU CAN NOT!"... !FEAR!

...and if constructively observed, children are experts in learning through play... when child falls, and it falls so many times...

We adults, we were also falling, but we have forgotten... "All grown-ups were once children. . . but only few of them remember it." A.S. Exupéry

So the child falls, and rise up, rise and rise again until it upgrades.

Maybe the best luck children have is that they don't understand us talking from our place of fear degraded adults.

Interesting fact about play is PLAY GOLDEN RULE, if there is no this rule, then that process is no play: Let's say two monkeys are in play. And nr. one starts to oppress another. If that another is not free in that activity, then this activity is no more play for him, and he leaves a game. Because he is not willingly in that activity.

Which means that this nr. one, stimulated to play by nature and evolution, will do the best to stay in play.

Therefore nr. one will treat others as nr. one would like others to treat oneself.

"Families that play together stay together" is much more then recent science expert research.

Children do know what it means to play together.

Let's listen children... let's think about Your favorite play... let's imagine in big picture of play...

My dear people, I invite You in story without fear, with play and with love.

Children can lead the way to that story!

Thank You!