

Pop-Up Adventure Play® Supports Child-directed Play Throughout the US and Beyond

~ Pop-Up Adventure Play embarking on 2014 US Tour~



February 11, 2014 – Beginning in Pittsfield, MA at the Berkshire Museum with the 2nd annual {[10 Days of Play](#)} event and ending in Boston, MA in mid-April, the first annual Pop-Up Adventure Play Tour is bringing opportunities for child-directed play with everyday materials to children across the United States.

Pop-Up Adventure Play {<http://www.popupadventureplay.org/>}, co-founded by UK-based playworkers Morgan Leichter-Saxby and Suzanna Law and US-based early childhood education expert Anna Housley Juster, is a non-profit organization working internationally to address the decline in opportunities for child-directed play through a practice-based training model and public play events called Pop-Up Adventure Playgrounds.

Pop-Up Adventure Playgrounds are public celebrations of children's self-directed play with everyday materials or loose parts (e.g., boxes, tubes, Duct tape, fabric samples and scraps, paper plates, etc.). Staffed by trained volunteers, Pop-Up Adventure Playgrounds rely on reusable materials mainly donated by local businesses (e.g., grocery stores, restaurants, and upholstery stores). Across a variety of contexts including schools, museums, and camps, children of all ages and abilities have the unique opportunity to be 100% in charge of their own play process. Adults are only there to support children's ideas as they create, discover, and explore with open-ended materials. These materials are highly engaging to children, but are not precious to adults, thus freeing children to take healthy risks and think innovatively without the fear of failure that comes when there is one right way to do something, one right way to win.

Pop-Up Adventure Playgrounds not only provide rare opportunities to publically showcase child-directed play, but also act as catalysts for change in children's everyday lives. Adults witness child-directed play in action and understand how empowering it can be. At a recent "Pop-Up" a 4-year-old girl's mother saw a rocket ship the girl had created out of plastic bottles, paper towel tubes, and Duct tape and said, "I had no idea she could make something like that." Parent-directed outreach is an integral part of Pop-Up Adventure Play's work and free outreach materials such as *The Amazing Benefits of Play* and *The Mini Pop-Up Kit* are designed to extend the benefits of play beyond the Pop-Up Adventure Playground.

Through the 2014 Pop-Up Tour, representatives of Pop-Up Adventure Play will be working with numerous organizations to bring Pop-Up Adventure Playgrounds to more than 14 locations {<http://popupadventureplay.blogspot.co.uk/p/pop-up-adventure-play-and-special.html>} from Ithaca, NY to Houston, TX, Seattle, WA, Raleigh, NC and beyond.

Learn more at www.popupadventureplay.org.

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