

# The PLAY Project

parent-led autism intervention for young children

>>> 1 in 68  
is the current rate of autism



## What is the PLAY Project?

PLAY project is an evidence-based parent-mediated autism intervention for young children. It is a play-based intensive, early intervention model that can improve social interaction, communication, and functional development. Parents, caregivers, and professionals partner to create an individualized plan for their child. A family playfully engages with their child 15-20 hours per week throughout daily activities providing the intensity necessary to support their child's needs.

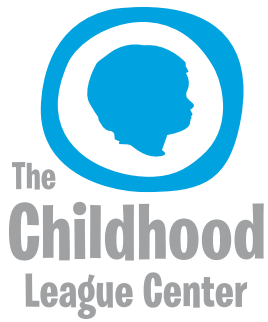
“By doing what  
your child loves, your child will  
love being with you.”

Dr. Richard Solomon  
Founder of PLAY Project

**how it works** A family receives one-on-one training, coaching, and support based on their desires and the needs of their child with autism in the home. A PLAY Project Consultant (PPC) collaborates with the family to determine appropriate PLAY Project activities and techniques for their child called a PLAY Plan. The plan empowers parents to build their skills and support their child through the stages of development. During each visit the PPC answers questions, coaches the family, models techniques and activities, provides written feedback and collects video for family feedback between visits.

## >>> outcomes

1. Increased caregiver/parent and child interaction
2. Increased social interaction of child with autism
3. Improved social-emotional development of child with autism
4. Improved autism-related diagnostic category/symptoms including behavioral compliance



# “PLAY”

stands for  
Play and  
Learning for  
Autistic  
Youngsters



## families learn:

- how to identify your child's unique strengths and needs
- how to make every interaction with your child a growing and learning experience
- how to apply the evidence-based PLAY Project principles, methods, and techniques
- what “developmentally appropriate” means for your child
- how to effectively respond to your child's behavior
- ways to support your child's learning and prepare for kindergarten
- how to increase the amount of smiles and laughter in the home



**TOP LEFT** Maggie Gons is a speech-language therapist for early intervention at The Center as well as a PLAY Project Consultant.

**BOTTOM LEFT** Dee Keller is an occupational therapist for early intervention at The Center as well as a PLAY Project Consultant.

**RIGHT** Center staff with Dr. Richard Solomon, founder of the PLAY Project.



## expertise

The certified PLAY Project Consultants are specialists in child development and autism spectrum disorders who are trained to educate, guide and support families.

Families are experts on their children, and therefore, the best people to deliver the interventions and nurture their child's social and emotional development.

**QUESTIONS?** For more information about the PLAY Project, visit [www.playproject.org](http://www.playproject.org). To speak with someone about receiving PLAY Project services through The Childhood League Center, call (614) 253-6933.