

Play It Fair! Day

Suggested Date:	Around August 12, International Youth Day (optional)
Age:	6-12 years old
Time:	Variable
Group Size:	Variable (you can combine several groups or camps)
Location:	At your camp or at a nearby park
Values:	Cooperation, respect, fairness, inclusion, respect for diversity, responsibility, acceptance



What is *Play it Fair!* Day?

Play it Fair! Day is a chance for the children and staff to join in activities that highlight positive values, children's rights and participation through games and group discussions. It is also a good opportunity to promote your program by inviting parents, members of the community or local press to see what you are doing.

Play it Fair! Day can be as simple or as elaborate as you like and can last anywhere from a couple of hours to a full day. Choose 1 or more of the ideas included in this booklet to celebrate your *Play it Fair!* Day.

What are the Goals for the Day?

- To promote children's active participation and human rights values while having fun
- To promote children's rights and *Play it Fair!* in your local community
- To participate in a national event in support of children's rights

How Can Your Camp Get Involved?

Getting involved in *Play it Fair!* Day is as simple as 1-2-3!

1. Read this planning guide and order free *Play it Fair!* Day materials.
2. Decide which elements of the day your camp will take part in and start planning.
3. Host your *Play it Fair!* Day and have fun!

What is in This Booklet?

This *Play it Fair!* Day booklet features 1 activity idea, a list of easy and fun ways to celebrate *Play it Fair!* Day, as well as tips on how to organize *Play it Fair!* Day we have received from our partners across Canada.

You can find a *Play it Fair!* Day activity idea on the following page.

Play it Fair! Heroes

Age:	6-12 years old
Time:	2 hours
Group Size:	Variable (you can combine several groups or camps)
Location:	At your camp or at a nearby park
Values:	Cooperation, respect, fairness, inclusion, respect for diversity, responsibility, acceptance



Description of the Activity

In groups, children create a *Play it Fair!* Hero and matching slogan (memorable motto or phrase) that exemplifies 1 of the 7 human rights values included in the *Play it Fair!* Toolkit and present their Heroes to the other children.

Preparation

1. Make sure you have the necessary materials on hand so that each group can create a *Play it Fair!* Hero and slogan (see example on the following page). The Hero will be created by identifying the key features of his or her character and then dressing up a child or group leader in the appropriate costume. Depending on the type of costume and slogan to be created, you will need spare clothing for costumes, various items for props, markers, paint, paint brushes, cardboard, fabric, etc.
2. Make arrangements to display photographs of the Heroes and slogans in a prominent place (such as at the entrance of your camp, the community centre, school, city hall, etc.)
3. Prepare participation prizes to be distributed to the children at the end of the day (optional).

How to Play

1. A few days prior to your scheduled *Play it Fair!* Day, ask each group to choose a value that is most important to them.
2. For each day leading up to *Play it Fair!* Day, group leaders lead activities that reflect the value their group has identified.
3. On *Play it Fair!* Day, greet the children in some special way, for example, by wearing costumes, playing music, decorating the site, etc.
4. Explain how the *Play it Fair!* Heroes will work. Each group will create a *Play it Fair!* Hero and slogan based on 1 of 7 human rights values and present their Hero to the other children. Encourage each group to be creative in how they present their Hero. For example, they can create a short skit or a song, make a giant poster of the Hero and slogan, etc...
5. Send each group to their designated area to create their *Play it Fair!* Hero.
6. Each leader leads a *Play it Fair!* activity based on the chosen value. As a final question to the group discussion, the leader asks the group what a *Play it Fair!* Hero would have done in the activity.

7. Each group then creates a *Play it Fair!* Hero based on the value they have selected. They will present their Hero to other children at the end of the activity. Children prepare a costume as well as a slogan that exemplifies their Hero. To do so, they should identify key characteristics of their *Play it Fair!* Hero. Leaders can use the following questions as a guide:

- Why is the value you have chosen important to you?
- What would our *Play it Fair!* Hero do if he or she saw:
 - someone being excluded from the group?
 - someone who did not feel safe at camp?
 - someone being bullied at school or at camp?
 - a group of kids fighting over a toy?
- What are some key features of our *Play it Fair!* Hero?

8. Convene all the teams and ask each team to present their Hero and slogan.

9. Thank and congratulate the participants. Give out participation prizes to the children (optional).

Tip! Take photos of the activity and share them with your community, such as with the local newspaper or community website. Don't forget to send them to us. We will put it on our website! Don't forget to get permission from parents or guardians to take pictures of the children. An example of a photo consent form is included in this *Play it Fair!* Day booklet.

This activity was inspired by our partners at Britannia Community Centre in Vancouver. Thanks!

Examples of *Play it Fair!* Heroes

The Cooperator

"Work together and everyone wins!"

Respectoraurus

"Roar for Respect!"

The Fairness Fairy

"For one, for all, for Fair!"

Inspector Inclusive

"Scope out exclusion and make it right!"

Acceptora

"Accept you, accept me, embrace di-vers-it-y!"



Play it Fair! Heroes in Vancouver

(Thanks to Britannia Community Centre)





Fun & Easy Ways to Celebrate *Play it Fair! Day*

- Dress up! Ask children to choose a value and dress up in the corresponding colour. Have each group leader lead at least 1 *Play it Fair!* activity (game and group discussion) on *Play it Fair!* Day.
- Encourage participation and ask the children for their ideas! For example, have the older children organize games and lead *Play it Fair!* activities for the younger children.
- Organize an all-camp activity:
 - Choreograph a dance or a flash-mob around the theme of children's participation.
 - Play an all-camp version of a popular *Play it Fair!* activity
- In cooperation with your arts and crafts program, make *Play it Fair!* flags that represent the values promoted in the *Play it Fair!* Toolkit or children's rights. Decorate your camp or display them at another community organization such as the local library.
- Organize a *Play it Fair!* pic-nic and invite parents and other community members to join the children for lunch and participate in some *Play it Fair!* activities.

Tips for organizers

Since 2009, hundreds of organizations have celebrated *Play it Fair!* Day across the country. Here are some important tips we have received from our partners over the years.

- Form an organizing committee. Ask one or more people to coordinate the activities included in this event, involve parents, children and community in all the steps of this event.
- Choose a suitable date, time and place. Have a back-up plan in case of rain. Make sure you have access to the necessary services: bathrooms, shaded area to rest, sufficient space for the games, snack area, greeting guests, etc.
- Ask a local business to sponsor the event. For example: A grocery store could provide juice boxes or snacks for all the children.
- Promote the event to families and friends throughout the community. For example, you can put up posters, write a letter inviting families to participate, place an advertisement in a local newspaper (ask us for a sample press release), send an email, etc.
- **Be sure to photograph the day and send the pictures to us.** We would love to share your ideas and success with the broader *Play it Fair!* community! Make sure to distribute the photo consent form before the activity to get permission to take and distribute photographs of the children.

How can we help?

Do you have questions or comments regarding *Play it Fair!* Day? Please contact us at pif@equitas.org or 514-954-0382. We look forward to hearing from you!

Photo Consent Form

As part of your participation in summer camp, you will soon take part in *Play it Fair! Day*. This event, organized by your summer camp, is part of a larger human rights education program for children that is being used at camp. Specifically, *Play it Fair!* is a program that promotes positive values and behaviours such as cooperation and respect with children through games and discussions. It was developed by Equitas – International Centre for Human Rights Education, a Montreal-based organization founded in 1967. Each year, 70,000 children across Canada participate in *Play it Fair!*

We would like to be able to film and take photographs of the children who will participate in *Play it Fair! Day*; we are asking for your authorization below. These images may be used by Equitas – International Centre for Human Rights Education and its partners for promotional, training or any other purposes.

This is a consent form granting permission to take and use pictures taken during *Play it Fair! Day* with Equitas, the International Centre for Human Rights Education.

Do you give permission for Equitas, the International Centre for Human Rights Education to use your picture? **If you are 18 and under, your parent or guardian must also sign this consent form.**

You may withdraw your permission any time, by informing Equitas of your wishes. Every effort will be made to immediately stop the dissemination and sharing of your picture.

Signature of individual X	Signature of parent or guardian authorized to give consent X
Name of individual	Name of parent or guardian authorized to give consent
Date of signature (month/day/year)	Date of signature (month/day/year)

For more information about *Play it Fair!* and Equitas – International Centre for Human Rights Education, please consult our website: www.equitas.org

