

**Play. Connect. Grow.**

## **Developmental Play 9-Week Course Syllabus**

This course teaches a responsive play style that prioritizes emotional connection through shared enjoyment. During this 9-week course you'll watch video examples of actual play sessions with a wide range of children. You'll read the accompanying articles, complete the quizzes, take data on your own play sessions and have the opportunity to submit video of you playing and receive feedback on what you've learned. By the end of this course you'll have a whole new perspective on play.

### **Week 1: Introduction and Course Overview**

- Group Introductions.
- Setting an intention for the class.
- Going over how to access and use the different features of the website.
- How this play style is going to help you help your child.
- **Homework for Week 2:**
  - Complete the first course section *Inspiring Your Child's Social Awakening*.
  - Complete the quiz for that section.
  - Play with your child twice for at least 30 minutes and implement what you learned.
  - As an option you can video record yourself and send a 5-10 minute clip to be used as an end of course video review. To get the most out of this course I highly recommend it! A private YouTube link or dropbox is preferred.
  - Use the Data Tracker to document your sessions.

### **Week 2: Inspiring Your Child's Social Awakening**

- Sharing your experiences from the first week.
- Deeper dive into the *Social Loop* and the motivate and wait play style
- Being magnetic in your play!
- Intro to exclusive, ritualistic or repetitious behavior
- How to stop asking so many questions.
- Trouble shooting Q&A
- **Homework for Week 3:**
  - Complete the 2nd course section *Expanding Your Child's Attention Span*
  - Complete the quiz for that section
  - Play with your child twice for at least 30 minutes and implement what you learned.
  - Use the Data Tracker to document your sessions.

### **Week 3: Expanding Your Child's Attention Span**

- Sharing your experiences from the week
- Sustaining our kids attention
- Play Q&A
- **Homework for week 4:**
  - Complete the 3rd section *Harnessing the Power of Shared Enjoyment*

- Complete the quiz
- Play with your child twice for at least 30 minutes and implement what you learned.
- Use the Data Tracker to document your session

## **Week 4: Harnessing the Power of Shared Enjoyment**

- Why is shared enjoyment so important?
- Oxytocin's role in play.
- Child Initiated interaction, looking at faces and joint attention.
- Video Reviews! I'll be giving some live feedback on your videos!
- Answering your child-specific questions.
- **Homework for week 5:**
  - Complete the next course section ***Growing your child's language ability***
  - Complete the quiz for that section.
  - Play with your child at least twice for 30-minutes each.
  - Complete the *Data Tracker* in your Dashboard for those two sessions.

## **Week 5: Growing Your Child's Language Ability**

- Assessing where your child is with their language ability.
- The power of the pause!
- Creating a focus list for your child.
- Answering your child-specific questions.
- **Homework for week 6:**
  - Complete the next course section ***Exploring the world of imagination play***
  - Complete the quiz for that section.
  - Play with your child at least twice for 30-minutes each.
  - Complete the *Data Tracker* in your Dashboard for those two sessions.

## **Week 6: Exploring the World of Imagination Play**

- Assessing where your child is with imaginative play.
- Symbolic Play and Symbolic Gestures.
- Activity Planning and Implementation.
- Answering your child-specific questions.
- **Homework for week 7:**
  - Complete the next course section ***Laying strong language foundations***
  - Complete the quiz for that section.
  - Play with your child at least twice for 30-minutes each.
  - Complete the *Data Tracker* in your Dashboard for those two sessions.

## **Week 7: Laying Strong Language Foundations**

- The importance of gestures.
- How to teach gestures using play.
- Coordinating eye contact, gestures, and language.

- Answering your child-specific questions.
- **Homework for week 8:**
  - Complete the next course section ***Going from solo play to dynamic interaction***
  - Complete the quiz for that section.
  - Play with your child at least twice for 30-minutes each.
  - Complete the *Data Tracker* in your Dashboard for those two sessions.

## **Week 8: Going From Solo Play to Dynamic Interaction**

- Taking a deeper dive into exclusive and repetitious behaviors.
- Talking about your child's specific exclusive behaviors and what they might teach you about your child.
- When to join along, when to wait and when/how to intervene.
- Responding to meltdowns and tantrums. (these are two different things!)
- Answering your child-specific questions.
- **Homework for week 9:**
  - **Send your video for Video Review Class! Send your video at least 48 hours before our next class!!**
  - Send a 10-minute video of you playing with your child, Aaron will watch it before our next class and share some feedback with each of you.
  - Play with your child at least twice for 30-minutes each.
  - Complete the *Data Tracker* in your Dashboard for those two sessions.

## **Week 9: Video Review Class!**

- Record a 10-15 video of you playing with your child using what you've learned.
- **PLEASE SEND YOUR VIDEO 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THIS CLASS.**
- Watch your video twice and take notes on what you think you did effectively and what you could do differently.
- Fill out a *Data Tracker* form for your session.
- Options for sending video:
  - Private YouTube or Vimeo link
  - Dropbox
- Email me with any questions at ***aaron@playconnectgrow.com***