



# Green playing & learning

## discovering and valuing the treasures of nature together with children

*'Green playing & learning' is an ISSA Peer Learning Activity developed by Sardes (the Netherlands) and the Neohumanist Education Association (AEN, Romania). In this PLA trainers will be trained to teach preschool and early years teachers how they can enrich their program with the ethics of "earth care, people care and fair share" from permaculture, and use the natural curiosity of young children to explore and discover nature.*

### Why Green playing & learning?

Young children are fond of nature and nature play. Nature and natural materials are a rich source for playing and learning and for discovering and exploring. In their nature play, children spontaneously use math principles, they learn new words and develop motor and social-emotional skills. They also learn to research and play cooperatively. Early childhood is also an optimal time to develop life-long ecological values and habits, as well as facilitating a loving connection with nature. As we protect what we love, these experiences are essential for creating a more ecologically conscious generation that will be able to regenerate the earth

### The training

In the training 'Green playing & learning' ECD teachers will learn how to use young children's curiosity for nature and how to embed the permaculture principles of 'earth care, people care and fair share'. They take the children outside to discover the overwhelming treasures of nature, and they learn how to take and use nature and natural materials inside as well. Participants are taught how to design and develop a nature theme with activities covering all relevant development areas.

Green playing & learning is not a fixed activity program but it can be used to complement an existing ECD activity program.

This PLA is a two-days training for trainers who work with preschool and early years teachers who wish to give nature and nature play a more important and substantial place in their daily program with the young children. The trainers will receive a fully designed training program, a set of inspirational 'seeds' from the "children in permaculture" curriculum and an elaborated example of an activity cycle with activities around the theme 'the snail'.

### For who is this PLA?

The PLA is designed for those ISSA members who have experience in training and coaching professionals who work with young children (especially those at risk) who would like to expand their repertoire. Basic knowledge about nature education is a plus.

### Target audience and application procedure

We invite maximum 12 ISSA members to join the PLA. We ask applicants to write a short Letter of Interest. Should there be more than 12 applicants, the trainers will choose the participants on the basis of this Letter of Interest.

Main target audience are teacher trainers, coaches. In order to assess a starting level, the applicants will receive a short survey to be filled before the start of workshop. The responses will give insight in what the applicants already know about nature education with young children.



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## Logistics

*When:* Monday-Tuesday, 13-14 May 2019

*Where:* [Visitors centre Natuurmonumenten Gooi en Vechtstreek](#), Noordereinde 54-b, 1243JJ, 's Graveland

*Course size:* maximum of 12 participants (max. 2 per ISSA member)

*Accommodation:* one night stay covered by ISSA/PLA program (bed + breakfast).

If needed, the second night of accommodation has to be covered by the participants (price is approx. EUR 115/night per room).

*Travel:* 100 EUR per participant contribution to travel cost is provided by ISSA/PLA.

*Meals:* on Monday May 13th lunch and dinner are provided. On Tuesday May 14th lunch is provided.



## Contact and registration

For more **information**, please contact

Lilian van der Bolt at **Sardes**

E-mail [l.van.der.bolt@sardes.nl](mailto:l.van.der.bolt@sardes.nl)

Mobile phone +31 6 2258 4046

To **register** please fill the form on the next page, scan and send to the email above

**Sardes and the Neohumanist Education Association**  
are both members of the International Step by Step Association.



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## Registration form

To **register** please fill the form below, scan and e-mail to: [I.van.der.bolt@sardes.nl](mailto:I.van.der.bolt@sardes.nl) before 22nd April 2019.

Registration for PLA Green playing & learning 2018, May 13-14, Utrecht, NL	
<b>First Name</b>	
<b>Last Name</b>	
<b>E-mail</b>	
<b>Position in the organization:</b>	
<b>Organisation name</b>	
<b>Street</b>	
<b>Postal/Zip code</b>	
<b>City</b>	
<b>Country</b>	
<b>Motivation to join (approx 100 words)</b>	