

Figuring Out Your Play Type with Ryan Ellis

COURSE

Discover how understanding your unique play personality can transform student engagement, classroom culture, and your own teaching joy.



About This Course

In this engaging and interactive session, Ryan Ellis (*The PE Umbrella*) and Dale Sidebottom (*The School of Play*) explore Dr. Stuart Brown's eight play personalities and how they can be used to design more engaging, inclusive, and creative learning environments.

Educators will learn how to identify their own dominant play personality and recognise those of their students, using this understanding to shape lessons that build connection, curiosity, and motivation in every learner.



Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, educators will be able to:

Identify their own play personality and reflect on how it influences their teaching style and classroom dynamics.

Recognise the diverse play types of students to create activities that cater to individual strengths and engagement needs.

Design play-based lessons and experiences that enhance participation, teamwork, and joy in learning.

Apply play personality theory to improve classroom culture, student relationships, and overall well-being.



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Why This Matters for Educators

Understanding play personalities is a game changer for teachers. When educators know **how they play**, they also learn **how they teach** best.

This insight helps:

- **Boost Engagement** – Choose activities that align with students' natural play drives for deeper involvement.
- **Foster Connection** – Quickly build rapport with learners by recognising what motivates and excites them.
- **Enhance Inclusion** – Adapt lessons so every student feels valued and seen through their play style.
- **Increase Joy in Teaching** – Reconnect with what makes teaching fun, meaningful, and energising.

About the Presenters

Ryan Ellis – Founder and host of *The PE Umbrella*, Ryan is a passionate educator who shares practical strategies and best practices to make PE and play accessible, purposeful, and inspiring for all students.

Dale Sidebottom – Founder of *The School of Play* and *Jugar Life*, Dale is an internationally recognised keynote speaker who has delivered over 1,000 workshops in 25 countries, focusing on using play to build well-being, resilience, and engagement in education.

Perfect For

Teachers, school leaders, and well-being coordinators seeking to:

- Deepen engagement through play-based pedagogy.
- Strengthen relationships with students.
- Reignite their own sense of joy, curiosity, and creativity in teaching.

