

Building Connections Through Positive Play with Daniel Inman

COURSE

Discover how intentional play can strengthen relationships, build trust, and create happier, more connected classrooms and communities.



About This Course

Connection sits at the heart of effective teaching and learning, and play is one of the most powerful ways to create it. In this engaging and interactive session, Daniel Inman, international school counsellor and global advocate for play-based well-being, explores how educators can use play to build authentic connections with students of all ages.

Through practical demonstrations and adaptable examples, participants will learn how to use play as a bridge for communication, trust, and belonging, fostering emotionally safe spaces where students thrive both socially and academically.



Learning Objectives

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

Use Play to Build Connection:

Apply simple play-based strategies to strengthen relationships with students, colleagues, and families.

Implement Practical Activities:

Integrate playful interactions into daily routines to promote trust, empathy, and engagement.

Adapt Across Age Groups:

Modify play techniques to suit different developmental stages and learning environments.

Foster Emotional Growth:

Use positive play experiences to support students' confidence, communication, and social-emotional development.



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Why This Matters for Educators

Positive relationships are the foundation for learning, and play is one of the fastest ways to form them. By integrating play into everyday interactions, educators can:

- **Enhance Classroom Culture** – Build inclusive, joyful environments where students feel valued and understood.
- **Reduce Stress and Anxiety** – Use laughter and play to release tension and promote emotional balance.
- **Strengthen Student Engagement** – Spark curiosity and motivation through meaningful connection.
- **Model Emotional Intelligence** – Show students how kindness, empathy, and collaboration can be practiced through play.

About the Presenter

Daniel Inman is an international school counsellor based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, with over 15 years of experience working across diverse educational settings. With a background in physical education and movement, Daniel has developed a unique play-based approach to building connection and emotional intelligence in students.

He has presented at conferences around the world, sharing insights on how play can transform relationships, improve well-being, and create school communities where every child feels seen, supported, and inspired to grow.

Perfect For

Teachers, counsellors, and school leaders who want to:

- Strengthen relationships with students through simple, meaningful play.
- Build safe, supportive, and joyful learning environments.
- Use play as a foundation for trust, engagement, and well-being.

