



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Healthi Kids Playful Learning Summit

Event Details

- Date: Wednesday, August 20, 2025
- Time: 8:00 am– 3:00 pm
- Location: Memorial Art Gallery, 500 University Avenue, Rochester, NY 14607
- Theme: **Joy in Motion: Reimagining Learning Through Play, Creativity & Recess**

Healthi Kids invites session proposals for our third Playful Learning Summit. This one-day event celebrates the power of play and movement in learning, and explores how joyful, creative environments support children's growth, achievement, and well-being. We welcome educators, practitioners, and play advocates to share dynamic sessions that connect with our theme and engage our community.

Session Details

- Sessions are 60 minutes total and must include 10 minutes for Q&A or closing discussion. This is a hard stop—sessions must end promptly at the hour mark to keep the schedule on track. A runthrough will be held with each presenter to confirm timing.
- Formats may include workshops, interactive lectures, panels, or movement-based sessions. Hands-on, interactive formats are strongly encouraged.
- Rooms may be arranged for movement/interaction or lecture-style, depending on session needs.
- Technology available includes projectors/screens, basic sound systems, and access to outdoor space (weather permitting). The venue does have Wi-Fi, but presenters must be prepared to give sessions without Internet access.

Submission Guidelines

- Session title
- 200-word abstract (max)
- Three learning objectives or takeaways (e.g., 'Participants will be able to...')
- Intended audience level (PreK, elementary, middle, high school, or mixed)
- Session format and engagement strategy (e.g., discussion, movement, hands-on, etc.)
- Technology or space needs
- Presenter name(s), role/title, organization, and contact info
- Presenter bio(s) for program (100 words max each)

Deadline for submissions: Friday, June 27, 2025

Selection Process

Submissions will be reviewed by a team of educators and Healthi Kids staff. Proposals will be evaluated holistically with consideration given to:

- Alignment with the summit theme
- Relevance to PreK–12 educators
- Inclusion of interactive/engaging components
- Non-duplication / Originality of content or theme(s)

Presenters will be notified of selections between July 7–11, 2025.

Presenter Support & Expectations

- Honorarium of \$250 per presenter, with maximum of \$500 per session for groups
- Complimentary event registration, breakfast, and lunch
- Free parking
- Sessions must not include sales pitches; however, a tabling option is available for those who wish to share resources.
- All presentation materials/slides must be ADA-compliant.
- **Finalized slides and materials due by no later than August 6, 2025.**
- Presenter bios may appear in printed materials or shared online or via social media.
- Some photos or short video clips may be taken for promotion (full sessions will not be recorded).

Proposal Submission Form

Please visit <https://www.healthikids.org/summitrfp25> to submit your session proposal today. If you have questions or concerns about the submission process, please contact william.rivera@commongroundhealth.org

Deadline for submissions: Friday, June 27, 2025

Sample Session Categories and Topics

Below are sample topics intended to spark ideas and illustrate the range of presentations we welcome. Proposals do *not* need to match these titles/topics exactly.

A) Creativity in Playful Learning

Exploring the intersection of play, imagination, and the arts to enrich learning.

- Creative Chaos: Why Messy Learning Sparks Innovation
- From Paint to Purpose: Arts-Integrated Learning Through Play
- Storytelling in Motion: Drama and Dance as Learning Tools

B) Playful Pedagogy & Learning Design

Rethinking how we teach by designing joyful, interactive learning environments.

- Rewriting the Rules: How Play Can Disrupt Traditional Teaching
- Serious Fun: The Neuroscience Behind Play-Based Learning
- Play as Inquiry: Cultivating Wonder, Curiosity, and Critical Thinking

C) Recess & Movement

How structured and unstructured movement fosters learning, joy, and community.

- Joy in Motion: Kinetic Learning Strategies for Active Engagement
- The Science of Recess: Why Moving Minds Learn Best
- Beyond the Playground: Recess as a Catalyst for Social-Emotional Growth

D) Pre-K and Early Learning

Supporting playful foundations for our youngest learners.

- Tiny Hands, Big Discoveries: Playful Learning for Early Childhood
- From Blocks to Brilliance: How Open-Ended Play Sparks Preschool Growth
- The Power of Pretend: Nurturing Creativity in Young Learners

E) Elementary School

Harnessing joy, curiosity, and creativity in the early grades.

- Joy in Every Lesson: Infusing Play into the Core Curriculum

- Games, Grit, and Growth: Building Resilience through Play
- Learning Through Laughter: How Humor Enhances Elementary Education

F) Middle School

Keeping curiosity alive during the pivotal preteen years.

- Playful Adolescence: Engaging the Middle Years
- Recess Reinvented: Social-Emotional Learning for Middle Grades
- Building Bridges: Peer Connection Through Play

G) High School

Promoting engagement, identity, and resilience through play.

- Gamifying the Classroom: Engagement Strategies for Teens
- Play as Purpose: Helping Teens Build Identity Through Fun
- Joy in the High School Schedule: Making Room for Play and Creativity

H) Inclusive & Accessible Play

Designing spaces where all learners experience belonging and joy.

- Play for All: Designing Inclusive Learning Spaces
- Beyond the Label: How Play Supports Diverse Learners
- Neurodiversity & Joy: Rethinking Play for Every Brain

I) Play for Educators & Lifelong Learning

Helping adults reclaim play as a source of creativity, wellness, and professional growth.

- Reclaiming Play: Rediscovering Joy in Teaching
- Playful Leadership: Building Schools That Celebrate Curiosity
- Playing It Forward: Designing Learning Environments That Inspire