

# **Bees for your Bonnet**

# Playful Resources To Explore

#### **FUN WEBSITES**

**TheFunConspiracy.com**—Free play coaching tips, wellness education, play research, community events, and fun blogs on how to harness the power of play for emotional, physical, social and spiritual well-being. Additional resources for those in substance abuse and mental health recovery.

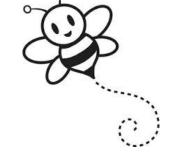
**DeepFun.com**—Play theorist Bernard De Koven's rich resource of games to play for fun at all ages and stages. Games that help us reclaim personal power through fun that is deep: whole-hearted, whole-minded, whole-bodied. "Because, when the fun gets deep enough, it can heal the world."

**National Institute for Play** (nifplay.org)—A non-profit organization founded by play researcher Stuart Brown, MD, that is committed to bringing the unrealized scientific knowledge, practices and transformative benefits of play into public life.

#### **GOOD READS**

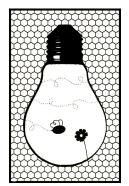
**Play** by Stuart Brown, MD—A groundbreaking book on the science of play and its essential role in fueling our happiness and intelligence throughout our lives.





**SuperBetter** by Jane McGonigal, PhD—This book shows how a gameful mindset can turn real-life physical, emotional, social and cognitive challenges into opportunities for post-traumatic growth. This book full of resilience-boosting quests that draw on a substantial body of scientific research.

#### **PLAYFUL TED TALKS**



Stuart Brown: Play Is More Than Just Fun, May 2008.

Jane McGonigal: The Game That Can Give You 10 Extra Years of Life, June 2012.

Amy Cuddy: Your Body Language Shapes Who You Are, June 2012.

Robert Waldinger: What Makes a Good Life?, November 2015.

More fun websites, books, media and research articles are available on www.thefunconspiracy.com.

# What's All the Buzz About Play?

# **Presentation Source Citations**



### Play is instinctual and observed in everything from electrons to elephants.

"Biology of Fun," Current Biology, 25th Anniversary Special, Vol. 25, No. 1, 2015.

#### Awe and Wonder: Nature's Anti-inflammatories

"Positive Affect and Markers of Inflammation: Discrete Positive Emotions Predict Lower Levels of Inflammatory Cytokines," Stellar, J.E. et al, *Emotion*, 2015.

#### **Einstein Aging Study**

"Leisure Activities and the risk of Dementia in the Elderly," Verghese, J. et al., *The New England Journal of Medicine*, Vol. 348, 2003.

## **Staying Sharp and Getting Sharper**

"Late Life Leisure Activities and Risk of Cognitive Decline." Hui-Xin Wang et al., *The Journals of Gerontolology*, Vol. 68, No. 2, 2013.

#### Play and Dementia

"Press Play," TED Radio Hour interview with Stuart Brown, MD, March 27, 2015.

#### Play helps regulate stress and lowers cortisol levels.

"The Serious Need for Play," Melinda Wenner, Scientific American Mind, Vol. 20, No. 1, 2009

#### **Creative Play and Dementia**

"Art Therapy for Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias," Chancellor et. al., *Journal of Alzheimer's Disease*, Vol. 39, No. 1, 2014.

"The Creativity and Aging Study," Gene Cohen, National Endowment for the Arts and The George Washington University Final Report, April 2006.

#### The Impact of Music on Cognition

"Playing for Time: Can Music Stave Off Dementia?," Elizabeth Landau, CNN Health, September 11, 2013.

### Laughter Is the Best Medicine

"Fight memory loss with a smile (or chuckle)," *ScienceDaily*, Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology, April 27, 2014.

#### **Dance, Movement and Aging**

"Little exercise, big effects: reversing aging and infection-induced memory deficits, and underlying processes," Barrientos et al., *Journal of Neuroscience*, Vol. 31, No. 32, 2011.