

PLAY TIME

Do you make time for play in your life? What does play mean to you?

What do we say about play?

Here are a few questions to stimulate our discussion ~ to play with, so to speak:

1. What saying(s) regarding play capture(s) a key story line in your life right now: playing it up, playing it down, playing fair, playing for keeps, playing favorites, playing it safe (sometimes too safe), playing hardball, playing house, playing it by ear, playing second fiddle, playing right into their hands, throwing out the playbook and starting over, played out, playing hard to get, playing possum, playing with fire?
2. What makes something play for you? When you feel free from the burden of producing an outcome? When creativity is involved? When you lose time? When you can just be yourself? When you're "acting"? Telling a story or a joke? All of the above? Something else?
3. What forms of childhood play have lasted into your adulthood? What has enabled that? What makes you especially grateful for it?
4. What did you learn from the games you played as a child? Monopoly, King of the Hill and Dodge Ball certainly instill different lessons than Red Light-Green Light, Clue, Jump-Rope, Pictionary or Hopscotch. Are there any lessons from your favorite childhood games that you notice "playing out" for you in the present?
5. What is the opposite of play?
6. Can worship be play?
7. Can play lead to transcendence?
8. Can play be a form of political resistance?
9. Has play ever saved or healed you?
10. Who or what keeps you playful?
11. What would it look like to sneak a bit of playfulness into your daily chores? Your dinner prep? Exercise routine? Workday? Your relationships?
12. Do you recall "a perfect day of play"?
13. Are you a good winner? How about a good loser?
14. If you could give your younger self advice about play, what might it be?