

Character Education through Creative Recreation

* A Back2BasicPlay Initiative *

DURATION

- Typical session is one hour but can be easily tailored shorter/longer to meet your programming and/or CEU needs.

MODALITY

- PowerPoint Slide Show
- Hands-on interactive play demonstration
- Questions, answers and discussion time allotted

DESCRIPTION: A variety of research shows that nationwide, children today are lacking core values such as kindness, respect, self-control, integrity and accountability. The importance of instilling character education in today's youth needs to be at the top of the agenda for school professionals, park and recreation professionals, childcare providers, parents, and other decision makers. We will review both the components of character education and learn how creative, interactive play can be utilized to help instill core values.

NEEDS IDENTIFICATION: A growing problem for society is that many of our children are living passive lifestyles as they are watching TV, using computers and playing video games. These lifestyles are resulting in not only health concerns such as obesity, but also social concerns. Children are missing out on opportunities to interact with their peers in a meaningful way..

PARTICIPANTS WILL:

- Understand the components of character education and basic play design and why it's necessary to children involved with one another
- Understand why today's youth are living passive lifestyles (with little pure play) and what the effects are
- Participate in creative recreation and be able to understand how it addresses health and social concerns as well as character education

John LaRue has worked in the Play & Playground Industry since 1979. He holds a Bachelor's and a Master's degree in Therapeutic Recreation (Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist) and is a Registered CEU/CPE Provider for American Society of Landscape Architects (SSI). He is also a Certified Playground Safety Inspector, as well as a Contributing Writer to More New Games (1981), Games and Great Ideas (1995) and has ownership to The PlayMaker Game Panel. John is President and founder of Back2BasicPlay, Inc.