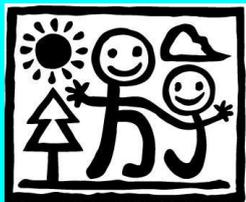


# Japan Adventure Playground Association



The Chinese character for “play” in Japanese is “遊”, with this image we created a logo for our association, in which children are playing hand in hand surrounded with trees and earth under the sun.

## Our Brief History and Function

Japan Adventure Playground Association is established in 2003 as a registered non-profit organisation working for creating playful communities. By securing free playgrounds for children, we believe we can realise the society where everyone lives a quality life.

We support more than 400 organisations nationwide as a second-tier entity by building regional networks, organising events and providing training programmes, etc. We also organise an annual national conference and publish newsletter and lobbying towards the Government and the local authorities for the importance of outdoor play. All those have contributed to realise a playful life of the child.

Since Hanegi Playpark, the first permanent adventure playground in Japan, opened in 1979, its number has risen continuously. By the birth of the Association has accelerate the move, and 75% of the whole organisations started after the year 2000. The number of permanent adventure playgrounds was only 10% in 2003, but it increased to 16% in 2018.

Now adventure playgrounds are located not only in the cities but also in the countryside. Japan has a long land from north to south with a number of unique play cultures and different situations about child’s play. Thus, we have supported to develop regional networks to empower small organisations working on local agendas.

We are offering an innovative way to promote and educate child’s playful growth by supporting adventure playgrounds. In Japan, the outdoor play environments for children are impoverished by a number of social factors. Being supported by those adults who worry the situations, adventure playgrounds function to promote the idea of a child playing in nature, playing together with other children and playing to the full extent. Thus, we facilitate child’s right to play by involving adults for the playful society.



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<http://bouken-asobiba.org/>



IPA (International Play Association) is a non-governmental organisation being founded in 1961 providing a forum for exchange and action across disciplines and across sectors. IPA’s purpose is to protect, preserve and promote the child’s right to play as a fundamental human right. Japan Adventure Playground Association has developed from the Adventure Playground Information Centre of IPA Japan .