



POWER OF YOUTHWORK

IPA GLASGOW 2023

SPEAKERS OF THE DAY

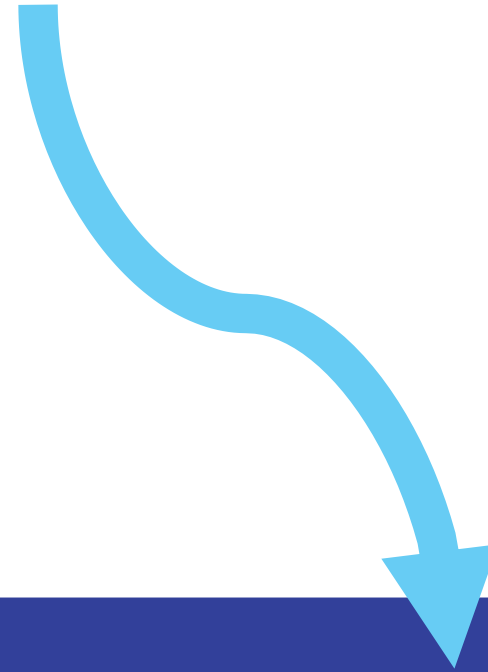




"WHAT IS YOUTHWORK (IN FLANDERS)?"

YOUTHWORK (IN FLANDERS)

- ✓ Collective name (youth movements, camp organizations, youth welfare work...)
- ✓ Scouting ~
- ✓ By and for young people
 - ✓ Children (4 – 24 years old)
 - ✓ Youngsters (5 – 30 years old)



ANIMATED PLAYGROUNDS

ANIMATED PLAYGROUNDS

- ✓ Unique form of youthwork
- ✓ Flemish Playground Service (NGO)
 - ✓ Inform and support all playgrounds in Flanders and Brussels
- ✓ 628 playgrounds (2021)

COMMON	DIVERSITY
Playing is the main goal	Organising party (communal; private, school...)
Children as the target audience	Participants (toddlers, teens, children with handicaps...)
Young people carry out the playing system and are involved in shaping it	Animator statute
Participants choose how long they participate	Playing system (open, closed, mixed form...)
Active in holidays, mostly without sleeping over	...

ANIMATED PLAYGROUNDS

"Young people carry out the playing system and are involved in shaping it"

- ✓ 39,000 animators
(± 16 to 24 years old)
- ✓ Voluntarily or a small fee



**"WHAT DOES AN
ANIMATOR DO ON A
PLAYGROUND?"**



ACTIVITIES

Creating, preparing, explaining,
supervising, participating ...



CARING

Talking, comforting, children with special care needs, first aid...



ORGANISE

Events, day trips, cleaning,
planning, accounting...



SOCIAL SKILLS

Communicate with parents, work together with other animators...





**"WHY DO WE CHOOSE
YOUTHWORK?"**



A CHILD

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

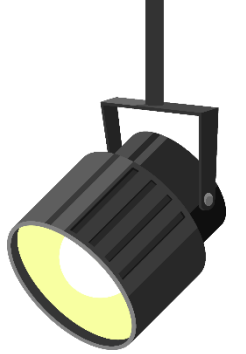


BENEFITS FOR THE CHILDREN:

- ✓ Closer to the children's world
Easier to connect at different levels
- ✓ Less compulsory / higher feeling of vacation
- ✓ Accessible
- ✓ ...

AN ANIMATOR

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



BENEFITS FOR THE ANIMATOR:

Possibilities to grow and learn

- ✓ Getting ownership
- ✓ Learn to organise
- ✓ Take responsibility
- ✓ Educate themselves
- ✓ Developing qualities

(useful in many areas of their future lives)

AN ANIMATOR

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



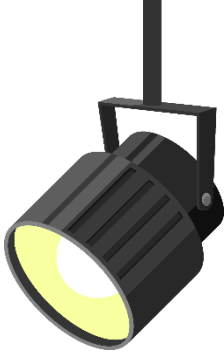
BENEFITS FOR THE ANIMATOR:

- Expand social network
- Have fun
- Learn how to work with/in groups
- Meaningful leisure activity
- Financial compensation

A PLAYGROUND



IN THE SPOTLIGHT



BENEFITS FOR THE ORGANISATION:

- ✓ Ownership and involvement: commitment goes beyond expectation
- ✓ Activation of young people in the neighbourhood
- ✓ Less expensive
- ✓ ...



**"ARE THEY ON
THEIR OWN?"**

✓ **SHORT TRAININGS**

- Given by young people
- Scripts & preparations

✓ **COURSES (50 HOURS)**

- Given by trained young people
- Skills as an animator, head animator or instructor (scheme)

✓ **SUPPORT STAFF**

- Flemish Playground Service
- Local authorities

SUPPORT



FLEMISH PLAYGROUND SERVICE

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