



Caregiver entertaining children at the recent World Play Day Event organised by Kagiso Trust and Cotlands in partnership with Takalani Sesame and the LEGO Foundation

In celebration of World Play Day, the LEGO Foundation and Sesame Workshop, the non-profit organisation behind Takalani Sesame, Celebrated World Play Day in partnership with Cotlands and Kagiso Trust, at an event with nearly 300 children at the Zamdela Multipurpose Sports Centre in Sasolburg on 4 June.

Cotlands play facilitators planned various fun activities for the children and muppets, Zuzu and Kami, were also present to highlight this year's theme "Play is a right" through song, dance and storytelling.

With Learning through play at the forefront, LEGO Foundation and Sesame Workshop,

announced the results of a multi-country research evaluation of play every day.

The program was designed to shift parent and caregiver perceptions about the educational value of play and to encourage play that contributes to children's early development and learning outcomes.

The research in South Africa, conducted in low-resource areas, found significant changes in parents and caregivers' perceptions of play and play-related behaviour, including an increased frequency of play by 15%, and an 11% increase in the link between pretend play as a foundation for academic learning.

This research was conducted in IsiZulu, IsiXhosa and Sesotho over a 12 week programme.