In the 2022-2023 school year, Playworks increased physical activity and taught social emotional skills to thousands of elementary school children in Pennsylvania!

Your support enabled the integration of play-based activities, fostering increased movement and a joyful approach to staying active. Simultaneously, we cultivated essential skills like teamwork, conflict resolution, and empathy among children, enhancing their behavior, engagement in learning, and relationships with peers. This holistic approach ensures that children not only enjoy the benefits of physical activity but also develop vital social and emotional competencies for lifelong success.
“The number of referrals has decreased since we collaborated with Playworks. It also has helped build accountability for the teachers and staff outside to support students throughout the playground. I have really enjoyed watching students with disabilities find games they can access and participate in without feeling left out.”

Glen Burnie Park Elementary
Anne Arundel County Public Schools

Physical and Mental Well-Being

Through our collaborative efforts, we’ve effectively addressed the critical need for holistic development among young learners. By integrating play-based activities into their daily routines, we’ve witnessed a remarkable surge in physical engagement among these children.

Social-Emotional Learning

Playworks combines structured play and intentional coaching to foster crucial social and emotional skills among elementary school children. By orchestrating organized play activities, trained coaches guide children to collaborate, communicate, and solve problems together, nurturing teamwork and conflict resolution abilities. Within this framework, children learn empathy by considering their peers’ feelings and are encouraged to take on leadership roles, building essential skills like decision-making and effective communication.
Increasing Safe and Healthy Play in the Pennsylvania Region

Survey results from educators at our Pennsylvania partner schools for the 2022-2023 school year showed that

- 93% of staff reported Playworks helps create a supportive learning environment.
- 92% of staff reported more students are physically active at recess.
- 79% of staff reported fewer bullying incidents during recess.
- 92% of staff reported that Playworks improved overall school climate.

At the 21 schools served by Playworks in Pennsylvania, students are...

- 97% average eligibility for free/reduced lunch
- 42% African American
- 40% Hispanic
- 4% Asian American
- 8% Caucasian
- 6% Mixed Race
Growth for the Long Term

Playworks Pennsylvania will reach more kids in 2023-2024 as we focus on building the capacity of educators at our partner schools to model and teach healthy play. Increasing our professional development and digital services for educators also increases earned income as Playworks’ largest source of revenue, building our financial sustainability in Pennsylvania. We continue to offer a Playworks professional on site for schools requesting a high level of direct service intervention. Our philanthropic partners are key to improving school climates for the long term.

“Students are more active in “playing” together. The games have given them more structured options during recess.”

Cooper’s Poynt School
Camden, New Jersey

To donate or learn more
Visit Playworks.org

We are grateful for the support of our generous partners:

- The Allstate Foundation
- Allen Hilles Fund
- Berwind Corporation
- Enterprise Holdings Foundation
- Flyers Charities
- Ann Marie and Terry Horner
- Mike and Nancy McLelland
- The Grace S. & W. Linton Nelson Foundation
- Philadelphia Insurance Companies
- The Seybert Foundation
- Sixers Youth Foundation
- Vanguard
- Verizon Foundation
- Vert Charitable Trust
- William Penn Foundation

Playworks Pennsylvania