



QUARTERLY PHOTO ESSAY

A recap of PlayMatters Consortium'
Uganda, activity engagements for Q1-
2025 (April to June)



In partnership with



The LEGO Foundation



PLAYMATTERS CONSORTIUM - UGANDA GRANTS OPENING MEETING - FORTPORTAL



During the Grants Opening Meeting (GOM) held in Fort Portal District – **PlayMatters Consortium members** actively engaged in a collaborative workshop to kick-start Year 3 implementation. The session provided an opportunity for partners to align strategies, define deliverables, and plan for year 3.



At the Grants Opening Meeting (GOM) in Fort Portal, the **PlayMatters Consortium Leads** took the floor to outline key priorities and set the tone for Year 3 implementation. Their remarks emphasized collaboration, learning through play, and the importance of alignment across all partners.



The **District Education Officer (centre) – Kyegegwa District**, receives the Learning Through Play Champion Award Annual Leadership Breakfast Meeting in Kampala for his commitment to positioning the teacher at the centre of LTP scalability—empowering them as key drivers of change within the education system at the .



During the Annual Leadership Breakfast Meeting in Kampala, school leaders were recognized for advancing learning through play in their schools and beyond. The **Headteacher (centre) of St. Joseph Kyabirukwa Primary School – Isingiro District** receives the Learning Through Play Champion Award for establishing a strong CPD committee and successfully cascading the LTP approach to neighbouring districts, including St. Helens Primary School in Mbarara.



The Annual Leadership Breakfast Meeting also recognized district-level champions who are scaling Learning Through Play (LTP) across education systems.

LCV Chairperson of Yumbe District (centre), receives the Learning Through Play Champion Award for his pivotal role in advocating for LTP integration at higher levels of education, including secondary schools.



The PlayMatters Annual Leadership Breakfast Meeting in Kampala brought together **key stakeholders** to reflect on progress, share insights, and reaffirm their commitment to scaling Learning Through Play. The discussions focused on collaboration, sustainability, and local ownership of the approach.



The Meeting concluded with a renewed sense of partnership and shared responsibility among education leaders and implementing partners. The gathering reinforced collective commitment to advancing Learning Through Play across refugee and host communities - Uganda. Stakeholders pose for a group photo.



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PLAY - KAMPALA

PlayMatters
Sparkling Lifelong Learning Through Play



The International Day of Play celebration at Nakivubo Blue Primary School showcased the power of play-based learning through interactive exhibitions and demonstrations. Key education leaders engaged firsthand with learners and Learning Through Play resources. **Dr. Joyce Kaducu, Minister of State for Primary Education**, interacts with learners using Six Bricks at the PlayMatters exhibition hub during the International Day of Play at Nakivubo Blue Primary School, Kampala.



During the **International Day of Play celebrations at Nakivubo Blue Primary School**, learners had the opportunity to engage with hands-on Learning Through Play materials. The exhibition hub demonstrated how play enhances cognitive and social development in early learners.



PlayMatters' representative from the International Rescue Committee welcomes the **Minister of State for Primary Education** at Nakivubo Blue Primary School during the International Day of Play. The day brought together government officials, development partners, and learners to champion the importance of play in education and highlighted strong partnerships between government and implementing organizations.



Under the theme "Choose Play Every Day," the International Day of Play celebration highlighted the critical role of play in nurturing creativity, resilience, and lifelong learning among learners. **Dr. Joyce Kaducu, Minister of State for Primary Education**, underscores the value of play in child development during the **Choose Play Every Day celebration at Nakivubo Blue Primary School, Kampala.**



PlayMatters teaching and learning materials were showcased at the PlayMatters hub during the **International Day of Play at Nakivubo Blue Primary School – Kampala**. The display highlights innovative educational materials designed to foster learning through play. These materials support learners' development in critical thinking, creativity, and foundational skills in an active teaching and learning way.



A learner engaging with the learning materials under the guidance of the **Senior PlayMatters Project Coordinator** from WarChild Alliance during the **International Day of Play at Nakivubo Blue Primary School – Kampala**.

This interaction demonstrates hands-on learning, where the coordinator supports the learner in exploring educational resources that promote creativity, problem-solving, and active participation.



DAY OF PLAY CELEBRATIONS- SCHOOL BASED



Learners of **Addu Primary School - Terego District** creatively using manila charts to form letters while celebrating the International Day of Play showcasing how learning through play fosters creativity, collaboration, and foundational literacy in their school.



Learners at **Koro Primary School in Bidibidi Zone** engaged in interactive play using LEGO bricks during the IDOP celebration, fostering creativity, collaboration, and social interaction through hands-on learning.

Learners of **Nyeu Primary School - Adjumani District** actively engaged in word formation using bottle tops during the IDOP celebration, enhancing their literacy skills through playful learning



DAY OF PLAY CELEBRATIONS- SCHOOL BASED



Learners at **Nyeu Primary School – Adjumani District** showcased vibrant cultural expression through dance and drumming during the IDOP celebration, creating an atmosphere of joy and unity through play

At **Mongoyo Primary School – Yumbe District** joined the learners during the IDOP celebrations. They actively played with the six bricks demonstrating the vital role of play in early learning and strengthening parent-child interactions.



Unity in Diversity: Children of all abilities came together in play during the IDOP commemoration at **Mongoyo Primary School** in **Yumbe District** promoting inclusive interactions and a sense of belonging for every child.

Parents and learners at **Apo Army Primary School – Yumbe District** shared moments of joy and connection during a TeamUp session of the "Follow the Leader" game at the IDOP celebration—promoting emotional bonding, teamwork, and active engagement through playful interaction.



TRAINERS OF TRAINEES (TOTS) LEARNING THROUGH PLAY REFRESHER TRAINING



Master Trainer demonstrating how to integrate the Learning Through Play (LTP) strategy into a lesson during the Trainers of Trainees refresher training at **Arua Core Primary Teacher College**. This training equips educators with the skills to create dynamic and interactive lessons that support holistic child development and enhances learners' engagement and comprehension.



Trainers of trainees engaging with the Six Bricks as they arrange them on LEGO mats during a lesson demonstration at **Arua Core Primary Teacher College**. This practical session helps educators experience learning through play techniques they can later apply in their classrooms.



Trainers of trainees undergoing a post-training assessment at **Arua Core Primary Teacher College** to evaluate their knowledge gain. The assessment measures how well the trainers have understood and can apply the Learning Through Play concepts introduced during the refresher sessions. This step ensures quality and consistency in cascading the skills to the trainees.



Trainers of trainees and facilitators pose for a group photo after the 3-day Learning Through Play (LTP) refresher training at **Arua Core Primary Teacher College**. The training strengthened their capacity in delivering learning through play approaches aimed at improving classroom practices.



TRAINEES LEARNING THROUGH PLAY REFRESHER TRAINING



Teachers engaged in group discussions to refresh and share insights on Learning Through Play (LTP) strategies and their application in classroom lessons at **Addu Primary School – Terego District**. The collaborative discussions provided a platform for peer learning, enabling teachers to exchange practical experiences and strengthen their confidence in integrating LTP approaches to enhance learner participation and understanding.



Trainees engaged in group discussions to refresh and share insights on Learning Through Play (LTP) strategies and their application in classroom lessons at **Addu Primary School – Terego District**. The discussions fostered peer-to-peer learning, allowing teachers to reflect on practical classroom experiences and explore new ways to make lessons more engaging, inclusive, and child-centered through LTP approaches.



A teacher stands at the center as she responds to the facilitator during a classroom session on Learning Through Play (LTP) strategies at **Kiridioku Primary School – Terego District**.

The session encouraged active participation, with trainees confidently sharing their experiences and reflections on applying LTP methods to enhance learner engagement and improve classroom delivery.

PLAYMATTERS COMMUNITY DIALOGUES



The Headteacher of **Kiridoaku Primary School – Rhino Camp, Terego District** addressing parents and community members during the Term II community dialogue meeting – a PlayMatters initiative aimed at strengthening sustainable parental and community support for Learning through Play in schools and homes.



Headteacher of **Addu Primary School –Terego district** engages parents and community stakeholders on their vital role in supporting children's learning through play at school and home – emphasizing the importance of creating safe play spaces and supporting in making the teaching and learning materials to enrich classroom learning during the Term II community dialogue.



At **Lowa Primary School in Adjumani District** – parents took part in a community dialogue under the PlayMatters initiative to reflect on their vital role in improving school performance, strengthening accountability structures, and supporting better learning outcomes amid persistent education challenges.



PLAYMATTERS GO - BACK TO SCHOOL CAMPAIGNS



A PlayMatters staff member and a TOT lead a planning and orientation meeting with the School Management Committee (SMC) of **Ocea Primary School - Terego District** to align on strategies for the Back-to-School campaign—fostering collective action to support learners' timely return.

A community leader, a TOT, and a PlayMatters staff member from **Tuliki Primary School - Yumbe District** conduct a door-to-door campaign to raise awareness on the importance of children returning to school on time—encouraging parents to prioritize education and address the causes of absenteeism



School Management Committee (SMC) members of Ejome Primary School - Terego District participate in a feedback meeting following the Back-to-School campaign—reflecting on successes, challenges, and areas for improvement to better support learner return and retention.



Teachers and SMC representatives at **Adrang Primary School - Madi Okollo District** verify the delivery of Teaching and Learning Materials (TLMS)—a process that promotes transparency, accountability, and shared ownership. Their active involvement has strengthened school governance, built community trust, and contributed to better teaching preparation and improved learner outcomes.



The Headteacher of **Apo Primary School - Yumbe District** receives Teaching and Learning Materials (TLM) at the start of Term 2, supported by the PlayMatters project to enhance playful, inclusive, and engaging classroom experiences for all learners.



SAVE THE CHILDREN – ETHIOPIA VISIT TO PLAYMATTERS – UGANDA



As part of a regional learning visit, the **Save the Children Ethiopia team under the LEGO Foundation's Childhood Development Activity (CDA)** met with consortium members at the **PlayMatters Regional Office in Kampala**. The visit aimed to deepen understanding of how Learning through Play is integrated into education systems and community engagement in Uganda, while strengthening collaboration and sharing best practices for effective consortium management across emergency contexts.



The Save the Children Ethiopia delegation meets with the Continuous Professional Development (CPD) Committee at Bright Future Primary School in Lamwo, exchanging insights on how the school embeds Learning through Play (LtP) into teacher training and classroom practice.

Delegates from Save the Children Ethiopia visit Bright Future Primary School in Lamwo District to observe the delivery of Learning through Play (LtP) lessons—gaining firsthand insight into how playful, inclusive teaching methods are enhancing learner engagement and participation





Thank you!

PlayMatters Uganda

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