

AssemblePlay, London

Dear Outdoor Practitioner

AssemblePlay started life as PlayKX in the Kings Cross development, north London. Rather than building a playground, the developer funded a team of experienced play workers and a

collection of loose parts.

Families can come along, join in free of charge and stay for as long as they like.

We have now run these sessions in lots of different locations from lush parks and ancient churchyards in central London, to car parks and car-free streets and bus stands. Our partners have included the Royal Academy of Art, Toynbee Hall and the London Borough of Waltham Forest.

Wherever we have been we have seen children seize the moment and play in beautiful creative ways and exactly as they need to play. We have had hundreds of conversations with families, delighted to find an opportunity for their children to play freely with other children, without a curriculum and free of charge.

from Penny Wilson, AssemblePlay coordinator

Jenny Ellen Magpie-Eye Photography

Jenny Ellen is a professional photographer based in North London. Her work has led her to many unique and exciting locations over the years, but her favourite experiences have been whilst photographing children and families at play in various outdoor locations, from large scale festivals to families at home in the garden.

Jenny says: *From the moment you step foot in this magical world spearheaded by very skilled play workers you can feel the shift from adult world to child led. The premise is simple - an abundance of loose parts, a public space (often satisfyingly commandeered*

from the adults!) and some playworkers. The outcome is anything but! Watching children create, explore, break down, rebuild, forge alliances, break bonds and above all play unrestricted, you can all but hear the synapses snapping.

