

NEIGHBOURHOOD BACKYARDS

This Isn't Just Play. It's a Comeback Story.

Produced by



**A Documentary about
Reclaiming Childhood,
Rebuilding Community,
and Rediscovering the
Power of Play.**

**"I am a firm believer that
we have to reorient our
focus from the national to
the hyper-local."**

**— Professor Seth Kaplan,
Johns Hopkins University**

**WHAT IF THE SOLUTION WAS RIGHT
OUTSIDE OUR FRONT DOOR?**

**Across suburban Australia, children
are becoming increasingly
disconnected from their neighbours,
communities, and opportunities for
everyday outdoor play.**

**Neighbourhood Backyard follows an
inspiring movement that is bringing
children back together, transforming
local spaces, and rebuilding the social
fabric of communities through the
simple act of play**



RECLAIMING CHILDHOOD. REBUILDING COMMUNITY. ONE NEIGHBOURHOOD AT A TIME



MORE THAN A FILM

A Movement Coming Into Focus

Neighbourhood Backyard explores the lived experiences of children, parents, educators, researchers, and community leaders who are working to create neighbourhoods where children can thrive. The documentary examines not only play, but also wellbeing, child development, social connection, belonging, and the future of our communities.

**"This is a community for our children.
It's a safe place. It's their place."**

— Zoe, Parent & Local Playworker

**"The biggest risk we could ever take is
not allowing children to engage in this
kind of play."**

— Andrew Barnes, Principal



**"If I was having a bad day, I could come and
just forget about it. Basically, forget about
everything bad that happened with all the
happy moments I had here."**

— Isla, Joomunjie Land participant

HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED:

 **Watch the Documentary**
Experience the inspiring stories of children, families,
and communities rediscovering the power of local play.

 **Share the Message**
Help spread the vision of neighbourhoods coming back
to life through connection, belonging, and play.

 **Host a Community Screening**
Start conversations in your school, organisation,
council, or community group and inspire local action.

 **Start Your Own Neighbourhood Backyard**
Turn inspiration into action by creating opportunities
for children to play where they live, every day.

Stay Connected

Visit the documentary page to watch updates, follow
the journey, and learn how you can be part of this
growing movement

www.australianinstituteofplay.org/neighbourhoodbackyarddoco

