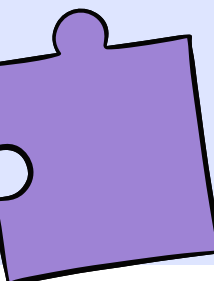
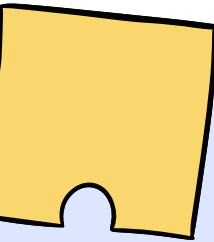


Is it **play** or not?

Exploring play and play-like activities in school

University of Bergamo, Italy

23-27 March 2026

Play is a natural, engaging, and vital childhood experience that transcends cultures and time. It supports cognitive, emotional, and social development, as well as identity and relationships. This International Comenius Week explores the difference between authentic play and play-like activities for all children, emphasizing their complementary roles in education and inclusion. Participants will learn how to promote equitable access to authentic play for all children, including those with disabilities, by creating supportive environments and materials. Through lectures, practical activities, and educational visits, the week will foster interdisciplinary and international reflection on the role of play and play-like activities in schools.

Practical information

Location

The Comenius International Week will be hosted by the Department of Human and Social Sciences in the Humanities Campus in the Upper City (Sant'Agostino and Pignolo).

The University of Bergamo is centrally located in Northern Italy, only 50 km from Milan. Divided between the mediaeval Upper City, one of the few historical centres in Italy to still be surrounded by its ancient wall system, the Venetian walls, and the modern Lower City, the heart of business activities, Bergamo is rich in culture and leisure activities.

Participation

The course is limited to 2 students from each partner institution and will be activated with a minimum of 10 participants. To receive a certificate of attendance, participation in lectures, activities, and group discussions is mandatory.

Language

The working language is English.

Costs and accommodation

Attendance is free. Expenses related to travelling, accommodation and food are not covered. Bergamo offers several accommodation options, including hotels, b&b and hostels: since March is a busy period, we recommend booking your accommodation as soon as possible.

ECTS credits

Students completing the entire programme from Monday morning (9am) to Friday afternoon (4pm) receive 2 ECTS.

Application deadline

30th November 2025

Contact information

If you are interested in this course, contact the International Coordinator at your university/institution for application. For more information about the week, contact: sara.cecchetti@unibg.it fabio.sacchi@unibg.it