

CTC Intensive Training Workshop
Diversification for Play Therapists Series
Superheroes and Disney in Play Therapy

Edel Lawlor

Dates: Dublin: 14th September 2019

Fee: €110

This one day workshop provides an introduction into using Superheroes and Disney in therapeutic work with children. The facilitator has seen, first hand, how children have used these metaphors in Play Therapy. She will share her experiences on the beautiful ways in which children can heal and use the power of these wonderful characters and stories, such as The Lion King, Inside Out, Wonder Woman, Batman and so many others. This will be an experiential workshop exploring the roles of Superheroes in Therapy and discovering our own Hero's Journey.

Superheroes have captured the imagination of millions all over the world. Three years after the introduction of Superman, psychoanalysts Laretta Bender and Reginald Lourie (1941) explored the appeal and constructive therapeutic applications of superhero's in clinical work with children. They discovered that as a mythological and folkloric icon, the superhero had a definite place in the play room by helping children to deal with the real dangers of the world. Children use superheroes for personal protection, as a barrier against antisocial behaviour, as an ego ideal and a problem solver.

The most defining and recognizable feature of the superhero is his or her unique gift and commitment to using it for the greater good – whether present at birth, acquired through accident, or learned through intensive training. The superhero understands that their talents and powers are used for the good of others as well as themselves. Most superheroes dedicate their powers and their lives to a calling, often sacrificing material pursuits, family bonds, and romantic ties to fight villains or uphold the greater good.

Using superheroes in the playroom can help children in a number of ways just as superheroes have origin and transformation myths, clients both young and old continually attempt to understand their own origin. Superheroes are transformed by circumstances beyond their control, so too, are clients altered by life events and traumatic experiences that include abuse, separation, illness, loss and relocation.

It is this universal attraction of the superhero with which children everywhere readily identify. Children wear Spiderman costumes, Batman T-shirts, sleep on Woodie's pillow, and head to the cinema to see the latest superhero movie, all in an effort to achieve power. Children in therapy often feel disempowered. Knowing they need outside help can often intensify this feeling. Children need heroes while they are processing difficult circumstances.

The day will provide rich learning in a fun, interactive way and will enhance skills and confidence for those in attendance.

Facilitator: Edel Lawlor, MA.

Edel is a child and adolescent psychotherapist specialising in play therapy, she also has qualifications in; Sand Tray Therapy, Social Care, Therapeutic Art and Theraplay. Edel has 20 years experience of working therapeutically with children and families from a variety of backgrounds, setting up her own centre, 'Expressive play', in Kilflynn, Co. Kerry in 2005. Edel has supported children and parents through one to one therapy and also group workshops. She has developed several school programmes for children to enhance self esteem and cope with transitions such as secondary transition. Edel also provides training for students and professionals working with children in; Child protection, Therapeutic play skills, The effects of domestic violence on children, Understanding parenting struggles and supporting parents, Parenting on the path of recovery and many more. Alongside these Edel facilitates her own parenting support programme 'Creative parenting'. Edel's work has been acknowledged at local and national level and published in a chapter in 'Parenting in Modern Ireland' in 2015.

CTC Booking Form

Please make additional copies as needed

Superheroes and Disney in Therapy

14th September 2019 (Dublin)

Venue: IAHIP, 40 Northumberland Ave, Dunlaoighre, Co Dublin
Times: 10am –4.45pm. Centre open from 9.45am.
Payment: Please include fee (or invoicing details) of €110, payable to Children's Therapy Centre

Name

Address

E-mail

Profession

& Place of Employment

Mobile Phone Number

Amount of fee enclosed € Note: Fee includes tea/coffee break but not lunch
(available locally or bring a packed lunch).

Nature of payment: Cheque - Postal Order - Bank Draft - Online transfer to bank a/c

If you require an invoice please give full details of whom it is to be sent to:

Bookings: Return booking form with fee to CTC, Tír Na nÓg, Slievenagorta, Ballymore, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath, or email to childrenstherapycentre@gmail.com and send payment in post. Cheques should be made payable to Children's Therapy Centre.

Cancellations: In the event of any cancellation a booking fee of €50 will be retained. Full fee is non refundable in the event of cancellations within 2 weeks of the event, although substitutions are possible.

Further Details: Siobhan 086 1962501, childrenstherapycentre@gmail.com, www.childrenstherapycentre.ie Website: www.childrenstherapycentre.ie Facebook Page: <http://on.fb.me/CTC-facebook>