



## Afro-German Playgroup Berlin

The Afro-German Playgroup Berlin was launched in 2005 and meets once a month. It is a place for Afro-German families to celebrate their diverse culture.

The group was formed and initiated by a mother who wanted her then three year old daughter to have regular and intense contact with other Afro-German children and who herself was looking to meet other parents.

*“Mama, I don’t want to be brown-skinned any more!”*

Since the playgroup first started it was clear that being Afro-German has its own individual identity and culture - something that continues to grow and which respectfully and positively integrates the various parental backgrounds.

For us, black and white parents, the monthly inter-cultural gatherings are about accepting, celebrating and living this diversity. We want the playgroup to be a place of strengthening and we put emphasis on inter-cultural sensitivity in terms of every day life and its challenges. We aim to expose our children to the diverse Afro-culture in a playful, entertaining and educational way, and try to give them a more solid grounding in understanding their roots and living them with pride.

As parents, either married, separated, single or living in a patchwork family, we have to deal with cultural, domestic and other social experiences which did not necessarily naturally develop with the beginning of an inter-cultural relationship.

We also share and discuss a spectrum of non-white experiences in a predominantly white society. In the course of time the whites among us have learned that the challenges and ‘surprises’ non-whites experience are not close to the imaginable.

To provide a basis to our work and realise among other things media projects for our children such as ‘Afro-Kids-ART’, the association ‘Total Plural e.V.’ was founded in 2009. We welcome and would like to address all families interested in our regular, intercultural mainly artistic work with families.

We offer an open house policy and welcome anyone, whether they are from the Berlin districts of Pankow, Wedding or Charlottenburg and regardless of their socio-economic background, religion, nationality or family status. We disapprove of marginalisation, discrimination and violence.

We are relatively relaxed about terms such as black, white, non-white, Afro-German, etc. because they are just auxiliary terms.

What counts is the human being.

We invite all who are interested or simply curious and open to get in touch with us, feel like coming around, work with us and share something productive with our parents and children. We are always happy to welcome new ideas, dedication and support.

Warmest regards

Your Afro-German Playgroup Berlin Team

**“No culture can survive if it attempts to be exclusive.”** Mahatma Gandhi



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Total Plural e.V.**

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