

# WHY WE NEED TO PLAY

*Read the text and choose the best word for the gap.*

Human beings are not the only creatures that like to (1) \_\_\_\_\_ fun. Many animals play, as do some birds. However, no other creatures spend so much time enjoying themselves as human beings do. Indeed, we (2) \_\_\_\_\_ onto our sense of fun right into adulthood.

So why do human beings spend so much time playing? One reason is that we have time for leisure; animals have very little time to play as most of their life is spent sleeping and (3) \_\_\_\_\_ food.

So, is play just an opportunity for us to (4) \_\_\_\_\_ in enjoyable activities or does it have a more important (5) \_\_\_\_\_? According to scientists, (6) \_\_\_\_\_ from being fun, play has several very real (7) \_\_\_\_\_ for us - it helps our physical, intellectual and social development. It also helps to (8) \_\_\_\_\_ us for what we have not yet experienced. With very (9) \_\_\_\_\_ risk, we can act out what we would do in unexpected, or even dangerous, situations.

