

Transforming the Schoolyard

How local school communities design and build their playground learning environments





Heritage Park Public School

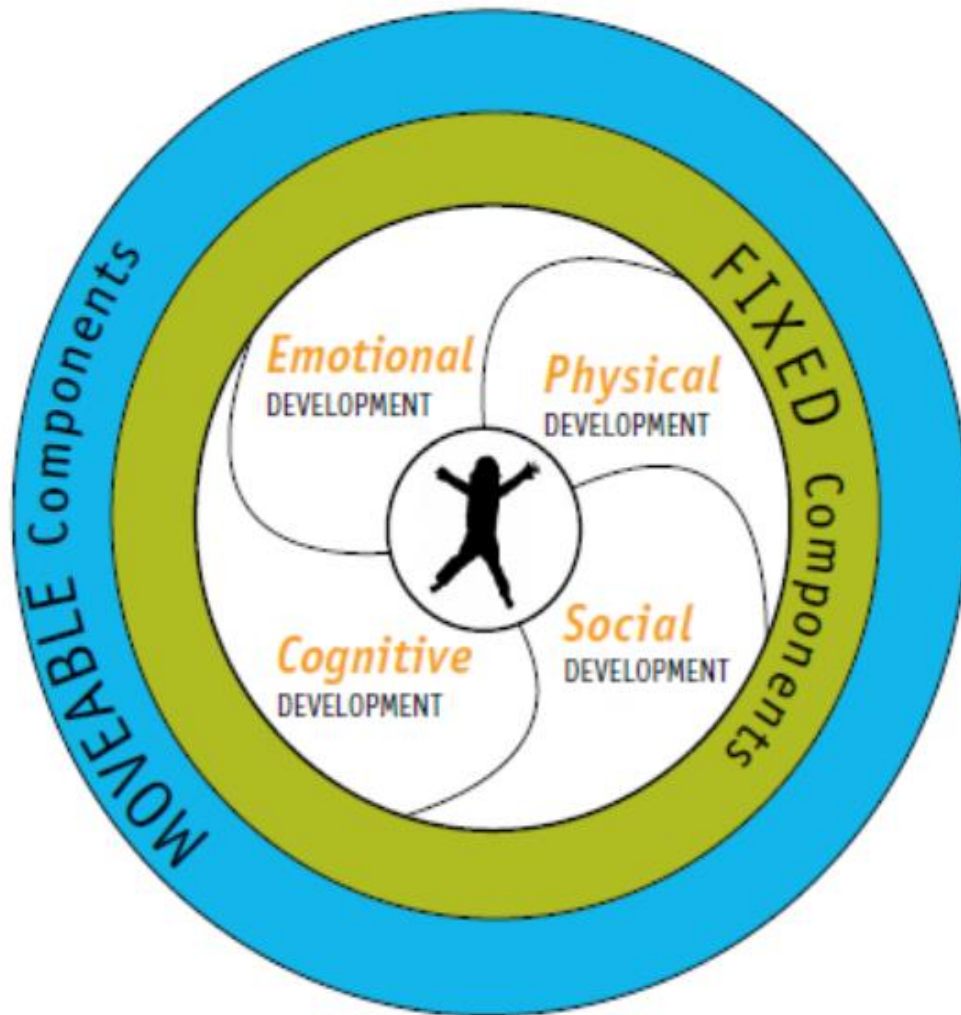


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Landscape and *Child* Development

A Design Guide for Early Years–Kindergarten Play-Learning Environments





The fixed and moveable components of the design work together in service of the range of development needs of the child.

This framework is intended to act as a filter for design thinking from concept through to implementation.



North Bendale Junior Public School







Montrose Junior Public School











HA Halbert Junior Public School









Storage Unit Information and Specifications



Storage Units

Storage units can provide a valuable space within outdoor classrooms and play areas to store/house toys, features, and activities within the area. Storage units come in many different forms and varieties, ranging in size, material, and price. When choosing a storage unit keep in mind the kinds and quantity of objects that will be stored. This will help to determine the best size of the unit for your space.



Incorporating Storage into the Outdoor Classroom

Storage

The inclusion of a storage space within an outdoor classroom will provide many opportunities for the space. The storage unit can be used to stow smaller loose parts, toys, and activities when the class is finished using the space. Storing these movable objects helps to reduce theft and vandalism to valuable outdoor classroom essentials.



Chalk walls

Storage units provide a convenient flat surface for chalk walls. The Pre-cast concrete units can be drawn on directly with chalk. Alternatively, chalk walls can be mounted directly to the surface of the storage unit ensuring accessibility for children. The chalk walls are constructed using marine grade plywood painted black.



Murals/Art Projects

Storage units can also be painted. Painting the storage units will help to create an identity for the school while making it more aesthetically pleasing. The painting can be done by the students as an art project. 'Speciality outdoor paint can be used' to paint the storage units.

Paint Resource:

<https://www.dulux.com.sg/en/products/dulux-water-based-gloss>

Stock Tank Information and Specifications

Stock Tank Uses

Stock tanks are commonly used as large drinking troughs for horses and cattle. However, stock tanks provide an accessible and durable solution for raised planters and small sandboxes.



Stock tanks can be used for the planting of flowers, shrubs, and food (vegetables and fruit). Stock tanks also provide interesting opportunities for art projects. Stock tanks are made of galvanized steel that ensures long-lasting and durable solutions for outdoor features (sand and gardens).

The modular nature of the units also provide interesting opportunities for classrooms. Each classroom and/or grade can be assigned a stock tank, or each stock tank can be designated for different plants/vegetables and or use (e.g. sand play).

Create Outdoor Learning Opportunities

Gardening

A combination of triple mix soil and 1/3 compost can be added to the stock tank to create a raised garden. Stock tanks provide low maintenance and accessible garden beds for schools. Ensure that there is proper drainage from the stock tank, refer to **Detail 1** for further information.



Sand Play

Sand can be added into the stock tanks to provide sand play within outdoor areas. Ensure that there is proper water drainage from the tank, refer to **Detail 1** for further information. Both the soil from the gardening bed and the sand from the modular "sand tank" can be reduced by filling 3/4 of the stock tank with volume reducing materials such as recycled plastic water bottles, refer to **Detail 2** for further information.

Art Projects

Stock tanks can be painted. Painting the stock tanks will help to create an identity for the school while providing students with a sense of ownership of the gardens. It can also help to identify the class/group using each stock tank. Speciality outdoor paint can be used to paint the stock tanks.