

OUTSIDE PLAY

Types of Play

- Exercise Play - provides for large muscle development
 - Climbing equipment
 - Swings/slides/see-saws
 - Wheel toys
 - Space to run
- Dramatic Play - make-believe/pretend play activities
 - Playhouses/structures
 - Vehicles
 - Props for play - hats, clothes, pots/pans, small cars/trucks/animals/people for sand
- Constructive Play - opportunity to construct or build
 - Blocks
 - Boards, crates, boxes, moveable materials
 - Woodworking activities
 - Art/craft activities
- Group Play - cooperative play or group activities
 - Large open space
 - Props which encourage cooperation - balls, frisbees, etc.

Safety Features

Design

- Maximum height for equipment is 7 ft. (lower for infants/toddlers).
- Fall zones are under and around equipment over 3 ft. for preschoolers, 2 ft. for toddlers.
- No entrapment areas exist - 5-10" spaces between slats.
- No crush points or shearing actions exist.
- Swing seats are soft.
- No protruding bolts, sharp edges, etc. exist.

Installation

- Heavy equipment is anchored with concrete - no protruding concrete supports.
- Fall zones need 8-10" of soft surface - sand, shredded wood, etc.
- Fall zones extend out far enough from equipment.
- Equipment is set at appropriate height.

Maintenance

- Soft surface is replenished as needed.
- Wood is treated to prevent rotting, splitting, splintering.
- Equipment is inspected for broken parts, loose bolts.

Supervision

- Appropriate staff-child ratio is maintained.
- Appropriate limits for use of equipment are set.