



July 2020

## Riverview Park - "Hope Included", Chattanooga, TN

In an effort to provide the most appropriate playground solution for your stated needs, we have developed a specific methodology for approaching our designs which includes many of the elements you shared with us as well as some additional ideas that we have incorporated into the overall playground environment.

**National Demonstration Sites** - The play environment exemplifies three key evidenced-based best practices in design - **NatureGrounds**, **PlayOn!** and the **7 Principles of Inclusion Playground Design** - to support health related initiatives, and provide meaningful ways for community stakeholders to gather data about the site's impact on the community.

**Natural Entrance** - Incorporating nature into the play space elevates children's play experience.

The Vine Tunnel presents a natural aesthetic, and as plantings mature, additional opportunities for shade and exploration.

**Cozy Spots** - Offering passive areas for children to observe and understand the play activity prior to participating can help draw them into active play. Under deck shady spots, the Climb and Discover Cave, and strategically placed benches offer 'Jump in Points' within the play space.

**Sensory Music** - Offering the elements of music and sound encourages collaboration, creativity, and age-appropriate activities for multi-generational users at any developmental stage. The pieces that were curated for the play space include Freenotes Flowers and Butterflies, the Curved Chimes, Allegro, and Presto that not only providing a variety of orchestral sounds, but blend seamlessly into the natural environment.

**Mixture of Static and Dynamic Activities** - We have integrated a variety of moving and interactive play elements along with static components that span ages ranges of 6 months to 12 years. Each area incorporates age appropriate activities that are accessible via ramps, or at ground level. Half Activity/Balcony panels and upper body events are designed to accommodate mobility devices as well as a ground level Swirl with Me that allows access to both children with and without disabilities.

**Surfacing that Invites Exploration** - Poured-in-place surfacing provides maximum accessibility and the incorporation of bubbles and flowers throughout the play space invite children to imagine their own games, extending the overall play space well beyond the installed equipment.

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**No Enclosed Slides** - In order to maximize supervision qualities of the overall environment, all slides that were designed into the play space are open bed ways and include a variety of single, double, spiral, and roller variations, ensuring that all children can enjoy this rich, sensory experience.

**Custom Signage** - As an additional way to identify and brand the park, the custom arch sign can include the park's name, or be used to honor donors who have contributed to make this new play space a reality.

**Overall Environment Considerations** - Creating an inviting recreation space that would be a destination for the local community to play and support the "Hope Included" foundation. Including surfacing that provides a variety of color and texture to both act as a demarcation of specific play areas as well as to provide sensory input, were a major design focus. The creative seating and garden plantings that surround the perimeter also provide sensory opportunities along with pathways that gently meander throughout the space. The overall color palette was chosen to convey natural, soothing hues, while surfacing color changes help identify different areas of play.

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