

## Rosie's Testimony

Hi. My name is Rose and I am a 4<sup>th</sup> grade student at Elementary School. I would like to tell you about a very important subject known as recess.

Even though recess seems like a subject that doesn't really matter all that much, it's actually really important for everyone. It helps the brain reset after working for a while, sort of like a break. Sometimes, kids have a lot of energy that we don't know what to do with. This makes it harder for kids to focus on class work. This is why it's good for kids to be able to run around and let their energy out on the playground. It's also good and healthy to be out in fresh air. And most importantly, recess is about having fun and hanging out with other kids. It's not fair that not everyone can participate in recess.

Some people are in wheelchairs and can't go on the playground like everybody else can. This isn't fair. Recess is a good time to talk and play games with friends like tag or hide and seek on the playground. If you can't go on the playground, it makes making friends a lot harder because recess is the best time for friends to talk and have fun. It is difficult for other kids to play with kids in wheelchairs because we don't have opportunities to play together on the playground. I imagine that it is hard for kids in wheelchairs to watch other kids play. This must hurt their feelings. And besides, if you're having a really rough day and you want to just take a break, wouldn't you want to be on the playground playing with kids who care about you? Cause I know I would.

It doesn't always have to be this way. When I was in kindergarten, I got to go someplace where there was a playground that kids in wheelchairs can use. It had ramps. It also had this special swing that was like a platform for the kids in wheelchairs. In my school (Glenville), we have ramps to get where we need to be in a safe, easy way. Unfortunately, there are no ramps in the playground. Maybe, we could get a similar playground for schools that kids in wheelchairs can use. I am asking for you help to get these playgrounds and to fix this problem. This way, recess can be a fun, fair time for everyone!