Playground Accessibility

To be young is to play. All children deserve to have playtime, play space and toys, toys, toys. The biggest and best toys can be encompassed by a spectacular playground. However, children with disabilities are not always able to enjoy playgrounds especially when they are cumbersome, not fully accessible or too far from home. That’s where community based projects and private organizations can make a difference.

Organizations such as the National Center for Boundless Playgrounds and Kaboom! assist communities with getting accessible playgrounds built. There may even be some government support available in your area through educational funds and city block grants. Start with your local school district, city government and civic groups. And don’t forget to play around with the websites in this section.

Web Sites

Access Board: ADA Accessibility Guidelines for Play Areas
This site presents guidelines for play areas that the Access Board developed under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

http://www.boundlessplaygrounds.org
Boundless Playgrounds
401 Chestnut St, Suite 410
Chattanooga, TN 37402
Phone: 423-648-5619
Email: info@boundlessplaygrounds.org
Boundless Playgrounds is a nonprofit organization that has developed over 200 truly inclusive playgrounds. The site lists information on Boundless Playgrounds open in 34 states and two Canadian provinces.

http://kaboom.org/
KaBOOM!
4301 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite ML-1
Washington, D.C. 20008
Phone: 202-659-0215
KaBOOM! is a national non-profit dedicated to saving play for America's children. The organization constructs playspaces using a community-build model and shares the knowledge and tools needed for anyone to find, improve, and/or build playgrounds on their own.

http://www.indiana.edu/~nca/playgrounds/play-areas.shtml

National Center on Accessibility: Access to Play Areas
The Access to Play Areas publication is designed to assist park and recreation professionals, designers and consumers in creating inclusive play environments for children with and without disabilities.

http://www.uni.edu/playground/

National Program for Playground Safety (NPPS)
University of Northern Iowa
103 Human Performance Center
Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0618
Phone: 800-554-PLAY (Toll-free)
E-mail: playground-safety@uni.edu
NPPS helps the public create, renovate, and maintain safe and developmentally appropriate play environments for children by providing professional, well-researched, highly informative, practical and user-friendly services and programs.

www.npr.org/playgrounds

National Public Radio’s Playgrounds for Everyone
NPR’s app for smartphones helps people find accessible playgrounds.

http://www.forallkids.org/

Rosie's For All Kids Foundation is just that - for all kids, because every child deserves to feel loved, to be safe, to have opportunities for a better future, to know that there will always be someone to care for them, no matter what. Every child deserves a bright beginning and a chance to make his or her own dreams come true.

http://www.shanesinspiration.org/

Shane's Inspiration
15213 Burbank Boulevard
Sherman Oaks, CA 91411
Phone: 818-988-5676
Email: si@ShanesInspiration.org
The mission of Shane's Inspiration is to create Universally Accessible Playgrounds and programs that integrate children of all abilities socially, physically and emotionally, fostering acceptance, friendship and understanding.

http://www.treehouses.org/

The Treehouse Guys
Phone: 802-793-8880
The Treehouse Guys (formerly Forever Young Treehouses) design and build universally accessible treehouses for public parks and for private camps and backyards.
http://www.playgrounddirectory.com/accessible.htm

The World Playground, Parks & Recreation Products and Services Web Directory
This page lists manufacturers of accessible playground equipment, accessories, components and products.

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The following books and videos are available for free loan from the PRC library. For more information, please visit the online catalog at:
http://www1.youseemore.com/ReevePRC/default.asp

Books


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