

Outdoor Playground Environment Survey

Please take the time to fill out our survey on the outdoor playground at your daycare facility. As teachers and care givers, you offer a very important perspective that can shape our understanding of how children use, experience and behave in outdoor playgrounds.

The survey should take no more than fifteen minutes and all of your answers are confidential.

Please return this survey to the front desk by: _____

1. What age group do you teach at this daycare center?

- 12 to 24 months.
- 24 to 36 months.
- 3 to 5 years.
- Other, please specify: _____

2. How long have you been with this age group at this daycare center?

- Under 6 months.
- Between 6 months and 1 year.
- Between 1 and 2 years.
- Between 2 and 5 years.
- Over 5 years.

3. Please list the parts of the playground that children appear to prefer **most**.

4. Please list the parts of the playground that children appear to prefer **least**.

5. Do you feel that this playground offers more advantages or disadvantages compared to a playground which only contains vegetation and natural components that children can manipulate?

- More advantages.
 - More disadvantages.
- Please Specify:

6. What would you change about the playground?

7. Based on your observations, to what extent do the children that you teach demonstrate the following social patterns in the **outdoor playground**?

A. **Solitary Play**: children engage in activities entirely alone.

- Not at all
- A little
- Somewhat
- A lot
- Very much

B. **Parallel Play**: children engage in activities beside, but not with each other.

- Not at all
- A little
- Somewhat
- A lot
- Very much

C. **Group Play**: two or more children engage in an activity together with shared play goals.

- Not at all
- A little
- Somewhat
- A lot
- Very much

8. Based on your observations, to what extent do the children that you teach engage in the following play types in the **outdoor playground**?

A. **Functional Play**: children experience sensory stimulation through simple, repetitive movements or actions.

- Not at all
- A little
- Somewhat
- A lot
- Very much

B. **Constructive Play**: Children build, create or put objects together.

- Not at all
- A little
- Somewhat
- A lot
- Very much

C. **Exploration:** children seek visual or auditory information about different parts of the playground or specific objects.

- Not at all
- A little
- Somewhat
- A lot
- Very much

D. **Dramatic Play:** children dramatize life situations such as 'playing house' or bring life to inanimate objects.

- Not at all
- A little
- Somewhat
- A lot
- Very much

E. **Games with rules:** children engage in competitive game type activities following pre-determined rules and limits.

- Not at all
- A little
- Somewhat
- A lot
- Very much

9. Based on your observations, to what extent does the average child that you teach exhibit the following non-play behavior in the **outdoor playground**?

A. **Unoccupied:** child exhibits a complete lack of goal or focus.

- Not at all
- A little
- Somewhat
- A lot
- Very much

B. **Onlooker:** child watches or listens to other children without participating.

- Not at all
- A little
- Somewhat
- A lot
- Very much

C. **Hovering:** child onlooks activity at close proximity.

- Not at all
- A little
- Somewhat
- A lot
- Very much

D. **Active conversation:** child verbally communicates with others but particularly teacher.

- Not at all
- A little
- Somewhat
- A lot
- Very much

E. **Aggression:** child expresses displeasure, anger or disapproval through hostile means.

- Not at all
- A little
- Somewhat
- A lot
- Very much

F. **Anxiety:** Child display wary or fearful behavior

- Not at all
- A little
- Somewhat
- A lot
- Very much

G. **Rough and tumble:** Child engages in playful physical activity, play fighting.

- Not at all
- A little
- Somewhat
- A lot
- Very much

10. Please write any additional comments below, feel free to add a sheet of paper for more space.