7 Principles For Designing Tween-Friendly Urban Spaces

Outdoor time – including play – is important for older children, or tweens, too, and urban spaces need to be designed with their needs in mind.

These 7 principles of landscape design can help make urban spaces more tween-friendly and more playable!

Outdoor play is critical for children's wellbeing, yet in urban areas, access to unsupervised outdoor play is often restricted by various challenges. Many of these challenges, however, can be addressed through thoughtful environmental design.

The Seven Cs framework highlights key physical dimensions of designed landscapes for children, offering valuable insights for creating child-friendly urban spaces. By incorporating these principles, future designs can better meet children's needs and desires, fostering more supportive and engaging childfriendly neighbourhood environments.

CONNECTIVITY



Making it easier for tweens to travel in their neighbourhoods on their own.

COMMUNITY



Creating opportunities for a variety of social interactions.

CUES

CHARACTER

CHILD AGENCY



Showing that tweens, and their play, feel welcome in the space.



Adding the complexity of space that can engage multiple senses?



Involving tweens in making the space their own.

CHALLENGE



Creating opportunities for risky play

COMFORT



Ensuring the space meet tweens' needs, promotes wellbeing, and minimizes hazards.

To learn more about the study and our findings, and to access the article, visit:

Playability study

Article









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