

Overview

“Children with disabilities are often excluded from or restrained in play activities because of the physical barriers of play structures and the surrounding environment,” (Ripat & Becker, 2012). Organizations and foundations, like the Rick Hansen Foundation, (Retrieved July 2016, <https://www.rickhansen.com/Our-Work/School-Program/Accessible-Play-Spaces/Lets-Play-Inclusive-Playgrounds>) recognize children with disabilities require active play opportunities.

Design Rationale

Canadians pride ourselves in our respect and inclusion of others. However, 1 in 7 people with disabilities are excluded from enjoying playgrounds and parks. We need to consider what inclusion and accessibility might mean to people of all ages and abilities across our communities.

Problem Scenario

Your team has been selected to develop an amazing playground structure or a component of a playground that is inclusive, safe, fun, and engaging. Your team’s design needs to include your ideas of fitness, flexibility, and a joy of play. You must consider issues of mobility, access, sensory challenges, etc.

Success Determinants

Success will be determined by:

- Ability of your prototype to help the users enjoy playgrounds
- Addressing the design challenge by creating something that is helpful, functional, and unique
- Following the design motto: “Make it smaller, stronger, do more, be easier to use, be cheaper, be clean, be greener.”

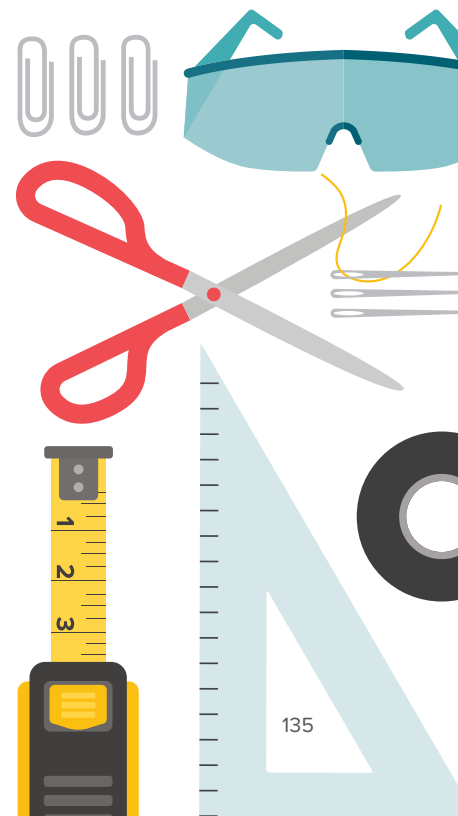


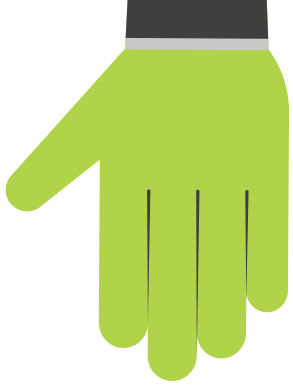
Suggested Grade Level

- Upper elementary through to secondary school
- Possibly primary grades with adult assistance

Suggested Subject Area

- Citizenship—including school culture/community
- ADST
- Physical Education
- Science
- Social Studies





Parameters

- ❑ You may exchange items from the pantry.
- ❑ You must use some of all the items in the participant group kit in some way.
- ❑ Your small-scaled playground structure or component of a playground must include at least two of the following concerns:
 - Be accessible for someone with mobility issues
 - Be accessible for users of variable heights/sizes
 - Be accessible for someone with sensory issues
 - Be accessible for someone with cognitive challenges
 - Be enjoyable for users of all ages

