National Wildlife Federation
Early Childhood Health Outdoors
Complete Collection of Site Plans to Date
January 2020

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ECHO Dashboard

Visualizing Total Impact since Program Inception in 2017

- **10,007** children with **daily access** to dynamic **natural** play spaces at **239** selected **grant sites** in **33 counties**
- **9** demonstration sites
- **50** seed sites
- **180** family child care sites
- **8,686** children at demonstration and seed sites
- **~32%** identify as non-white
- **~10%** have special needs
- **~28%** participate in CCCAP
- **361** community volunteers engaged in building outdoor learning environments over **17** volunteer **workdays** at **8** sites
- **361 community volunteers**
- **523** additional programs reached
- **2,315** early childhood professionals trained serving over **17,000** children in **38 counties** across Colorado
- **523** additional programs reached
- **1** guide to encourage greater understanding of the outdoor learning environment regulatory framework
- **3 annual summits** attended by **290 participants**
- **123** professionals trained as technical assistance providers
Demonstration Sites (9)
Demonstration sites serve as resource and training hubs for the community, showcasing how improvements to the outdoor learning environment impact young children’s healthy development.

Demonstration sites receive design assistance and $10,000 toward the installation of a best-practice outdoor learning environment.

Seed Sites (50)
Seed grant sites draw from demonstration sites’ experience and receive hands-on training opportunities which guide seed site improvements.

Seed sites receive design assistance and $5,000 toward the installation of a best-practice outdoor learning environment.
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LOCATION
Denver, Colorado
Denver County

SITE TYPE
Non-profit, Head Start, Child Care Center
Seed Site 2018

CHILDREN SERVED
Enrolled: 68
Ages: Infant-Preschool

"Sharing our knowledge, creating an engaged community, and ensuring that Denver’s children have a safe, supportive environment to learn and grow is critical to positive child outcomes."

“The most impactful aspect of the work with ECHO has been the process of reimagining the outdoor space for infant and toddlers.”

Before

Progress

Site Visit - Toddler Space
Professional Development - Loose Parts

Site Visit - Toddler Space
Professional Development - Loose Parts

Site Visit - Infant Space

Under Construction
As a director, I work hard with my staff to help them understand how great an outdoor environment can be and what experiences they can offer to our children... I have always looked for ways to create environments that encourage a sense of wonder.”

“I want our outdoor space to be a place where the children can learn... The design plan has given us direction and hope for a wonderful outdoor environment for our kiddos!”
LOCATION
Longmont, Colorado
Boulder County

SITE TYPE
Non-profit, Child Care Center
Seed Site 2018

CHILDREN SERVED
Enrolled: 45
Ages: Infant-Preschool

“Outdoor Learning Environments provide one more way to set children up for success in school and life... We believe that teaching children stewardship of the environment will benefit our community for years to come.”

“The grassy mound area in the toddler playground was a wonderful project that got the parents involved and made a huge change in how the space is used!! It changes the whole dynamic of the playground.”
Illustrative Site Plan

Aspen Center for Child Development
Seed Site
Longmont, Colorado

December 2018

This image is conceptual and for graphic purposes only. Plans are subject to change.
Avery Parsons Early School

LOCATION
Buena Vista, Colorado
Chaffee County

SITE TYPE
School District, Child Care Center
Seed Site 2019

CHILDREN SERVED
Enrolled: 136
Ages: Toddler-Preschool

“Although our mountain location attracts residents with a passion for the outdoors, we find many young families lack the resources and knowledge to engage in mountain recreation... or create a home with a healthy outdoor environment.”

“The pump track has given kids a lot of opportunity to be imaginative while engaging in a major gross motor activity. We have seen pretend gas stations and watched students ‘work on their motorbike’ next to the track.”
Illustrative Site Plan

October 2019

Avery Parsons Early School
Buena Vista School District
Seed Site
Buena Vista, Colorado

Outdoor Learning Environments

1. Entrance
2. Preschool Area
3. Outdoor Classroom / Garden

- Art Corner / Spool Table / Hang chalk board on fence
- Existing Basketball Court
- Paint Stripes for Bike Parking
- Existing Artificial Turf
- Art Corner / Spool Table / Hang chalk board on wall
- Existing Basketball Court
- Paint Stripes for Bike Parking
- Stepping Stone Secondary Pathway
- Painted Asphalt Games
- Painted 5' primary looping pathway for trikes
- Open Running Area / Existing Play Equipment
- Dramatic Play Area with Playhouse & Bench & Kitchen / Add Storage
- Dry River Bed
- Music Play on Fence
- Performance Deck
- Log Seating / Balance / Large Boulders through Pea Gravel River Bed
- Bridge into Pump Track
- Sand Play
- Arbor
- Existing Play Equipment to Remain
- Reading Nook / Classroom area under existing tree
- Peg Wall / Sensory Wall on Fence
- Movable Learning Garden / Outdoor Classroom / Chalk Board / Seating / Spools
- Water Play Area
- Earth Play / Mud Kitchen
- Pump Track (Mounds) 2" Rock in Center of Track
- Existing Art
- Existing Play Equipment to Remain
- Dry Creek Bed
- Music Play
- Loose Parts
- Loose Parts / Bench / Existing Work Shed / Storage for Loose Parts
- Existing Building
- Entrance
- Preschool Area
- Outdoor Classroom / Garden
- Movable Learning Garden / Outdoor Classroom / Chalk Board / Seating / Spools
- Water Play Area
- Earth Play

* When printed at 24" x 36" size
This image is conceptual and for graphic purposes only. Plans are subject to change.
Bethany Busy Bee Preschool

LOCATION
Centennial, Colorado
Arapahoe County

SITE TYPE
Non-profit, Preschool
Seed Site 2018

CHILDREN SERVED
Enrolled: 121
Ages: Toddler-Preschool

“We are committed to providing significant, daily opportunities for children to gain motor skills and fitness in a quality outdoor environment - a space where children’s developmental capacity can be extended and enhanced.”

“There are more areas for varied play, so children are well engaged while they are outdoors... The children have had the most fun with the water play center. The 2 hand pumps have provided great exercise, and enabled the children to independently engage in watering the gardens.”
**LOCATION**
Greenwood Village, Colorado
Arapahoe County

**SITE TYPE**
Profit, Child Care Center
Seed Site 2018

**CHILDREN SERVED**
Enrolled: 87
Ages: Infant-School Age

“Many of our children live in low income housing and apartments. They don’t have access to outside play areas or yards. The majority of [their outdoor] experiences are held here at the center.”

“The children seem to always have something to do. They loved the music wall on both the playground and the garden as well. It was a big success... We appreciate the opportunity to make these wonderful changes to our playgrounds. The children enjoy the spaces and seem happier and are always engaged.”
Illustrative Site Plan

Bright Beginnings Learning Center
Seed Site
Greenwood Village, Colorado

September 2018

Outdoor Learning Environments

1. Front Entrance
2. Preschool Area
3. Outdoor Classroom / Garden
4. Toddler Area

Illustration credit:
A. Lifted LA
B. NC State/NLI
C. Web

Outdoor Learning Environments:

- Earth Play with Shade Sail
- Art Wall
- Music Corner
- Primary Pathway, 5’ Wide, Concrete
- Concrete
- Existing Building
- Existing Playhouse, relocated
- Kitchen Play Area; Mulched surface
- Mulch Pathway
- Playhouse with Storage
- Existing Shade Structure, Wheeled-Toy Storage
- Existing Play Structure; Mulched surface
- Playhouse with Storage
- Existing Shade Structure, Timber Border and Shade Sail
- Acoustic Play Area, Mulched surface
- Acoustic Play Area; Mulched surface
- Kitchen Play Area; Mulched surface
- Existing Playhouse, relocated
- Existing Playhouse, relocated
- Sand and Kitchen Play with Timber Border and Shade Sail
- Sand Play under Existing Shade Structure; Timber Border with Bench
- Arbor with Vines
- Fruit Tree Orchard; Mulch Surface
- Stone Steppers in Mulch
- Raised Bed Vegetable Gardening; extend existing fence and rabbitproof; NOTE recommended gate locations
- Arbor with Vines
- Photograph: Front Entrance
- Photograph: Preschool Area
- Photograph: Toddler Area
- Photograph: Outdoor Classroom / Garden
- Photograph: Kitchen Area

Scale: 1” = 10’
*When printed at 24” x 36” size

This image is conceptual and for graphic purposes only. Plans are subject to change.
LOCATION
Englewood, Colorado
Arapahoe County

SITE TYPE
Non-profit, Preschool
Seed Site 2018

CHILDREN SERVED
Enrolled: 118
Ages: Toddler-Preschool

“We are hoping to create an engaging environment with new, natural materials that will expose children to learning through sensory experiences by seeing, touching, feeling, and hearing... The new outdoor environment would challenge their imaginations and creativity, building and thinking strategies with higher levels of sequencing, planning and organizing.”
Cherry Creek Pres. Preschool
Seed Site
Englewood, Colorado

Illustrative Site Plan
October 2018

NOTE: This area needs to be fall zone compliant as dinos are taller than 18”.

This image is conceptual and for graphic purposes only. Plans are subject to change.
LOCATION
Highlands Ranch, Colorado
Douglas County
SITE TYPE
Non-profit, Child Care Center & Preschool
Seed Site 2019
CHILDREN SERVED
Enrolled: 297
Ages: Toddler-Preschool

“The greatest success has been the introduction of natural elements for children to engage with and explore. While we are still in the initial phase of implementing the plan for the playground, a log scramble, a tree, and sensory tables have been added to the playground. Children seem to have found infinite ways to relate to these elements. The logs and tree cookies are constantly being rearranged and repurposed in their play.”

Before

Progress

Site Visit - Preschool Space

Site Updates - Community Presentation

Site Visit - Preschool Space

Site Updates - Tree Planting

Site Visit - Preschool Space

Site Updates - Loose Parts Play
Outdoor Learning Environments

1. Building Entrance
2. Preschool/K-1 Area
3. Wildlife Habitat
4. Outdoor Classroom

Illustrative Site Plan

Cherry Hills Christian Preschool
Seed Site
Highlands Ranch, Colorado

June 2019
“Being a part of this grant has made some great changes to our playground and the children and families are loving it! Our greatest success in our outdoor spaces has been that the children love the sandbox and making sandcastles, or rolling in the ‘grass’ or down the mound we added to the artificial grass... The artificial grass made it easier for us to spot the lizards that hang out on our playground. It’s great fun to watch the children chase them hoping to catch one for a pet.”
Outdoor Learning Environments

1. Existing Building
2. Future Expansion
3. Toddler / Infant
4. Toddler (Proposed)
5. Preschool (Existing)
6. Preschool Expansion

- Art & Water Play
- Natural Construction / Gravel
- Reading Nook
- Reading Nook
- Reading Nook
- Reading Nook
- Reading Nook

- Outdoor Classroom
- Music Play
- Sculpture village
- Slide / Climbing / Retaining Wall / Painting
- Garden
- Fairy Garden
- Bridge
- Basketball Court / Ball Court
- Deck / Classroom
- Planting Beds
- Gravel Play
- Slide / Wall / Planting
- Campfire Play (A Frame)
- Structures / Tepees / Shade Tree Groves / Spools
- New Gate
- Evergreen Trees for Wind Block & Large Deciduous Trees for Shade around outside

Children’s Palace Learning Center
Seed Site
Pueblo West, Colorado

Illustrative Site Plan
November 2018
LOCATION
Denver, Colorado
Denver County

SITE TYPE
Profit, Child Care Center
Seed Site 2019

CHILDREN SERVED
Enrolled: 125
Ages: Infant-School Age

“So many of our children live in apartments and don’t have access to a yard or nearby park to discover the natural world in. If we had healthy grass, trees, and gardens for them to discover and engage in, we know the children would eagerly explore these natural features and get so much more out of their outdoor time.”
Illustrative Site Plan

Denver KinderCare Learning Center
Seed Site | Denver, CO
September 2019

Illustrious Site Plan

1. Preschool Classrooms
2. Preschool Outdoor Learning Environment
3. Outdoor Classroom

- Outdoor Classroom and Art Storage
- In-Ground Garden Bed
- Activity Tables
- Hopscotch
- Balance Boulders; 16" HT Max.
- Natural Construction
- Wheeled Toy Storage
- Tire/Container Planters
- Painted Primary Pathway on Existing Asphalt
- Existing Shade Structure
- Painted Numbers and Letters for Classroom Lineup
- Grass Maze
- Loose Parts Storage
- Vegetated Archway
- Raised Garden Planters
- Art Wall
- Storage
- Acoustic and Dramatic Play Area
- Performance Deck with Shade Sail
- Seating
- Wooden Arched Foot Bridge
- Music Wall
- Teepee Natural Playhouse
- Existing Play Structure with Artificial Turf Fall Zone
- Secondary Path with Stepping Stones
- Shade Trees
- Sand and Kitchen Play with Boulder Border
- Multipurpose "Lawn"
- Peek-a-boo Panel adjacent to Infant Area
- Quiet Corner
- In-Ground Garden Bed
- Natural Construction
- Acoustic and Dramatic Play Area
- Storage
- Performance Deck with Shade Sail
- Seating
- Wooden Arched Foot Bridge
- Music Wall
- Teepee Natural Playhouse
- Existing Play Structure with Artificial Turf Fall Zone
- Secondary Path with Stepping Stones
- Shade Trees
- Sand and Kitchen Play with Boulder Border
- Multipurpose "Lawn"
- Peek-a-boo Panel adjacent to Infant Area
- Quiet Corner

* When printed at 24" x 36" size
This image is conceptual and for graphic purposes only. Plans are subject to change.
LOCATION
Tabernash, Colorado
Grand County

SITE TYPE
Non-profit, Child Care Center
Seed Site 2019

CHILDREN SERVED
Enrolled: 31
Ages: Toddler-Preschool

“We are excited to have introduced loose parts play successfully in all 4 of our classrooms, it has been a big hit and an often-requested center. We have started our outreach to parents by having the NWF team attend our back-to-school night, promoting our playground project on social media, finding volunteers to work on the project, as well as creating a display for parents to see in our school hallway.”
Exploring Minds Academy, Inc.

LOCATION
Erie, Colorado
Boulder County

SITE TYPE
Profit, Child Care Center
Seed Site 2018

CHILDREN SERVED
Enrolled: 98
Ages: Infant-School Age

“My hopes are to create a natural outdoor learning environment that supports the children’s interests and developmental needs. To be able to make a space where staff, children, and families can engage and interact with each other. To have the outdoor learning environment as important and full of rich learning experiences as our indoor learning space. To create a love of outdoors for all the children in our care.”

“Site Visit - Infant Space
Design Workshop - Site Plan
Under Construction

Site Visit - Toddler Space

Site Visit - Preschool Space
Under Construction
Exploring Minds Academy, Inc.
Seed Site
Erie, Colorado

Illustative Site Plan
February 2019

Outdoor Learning Environments

1. Front Entrance
2. Preschool Area
3. Toddler Area
4. Infant Area
5. Garden

- Sensory Garden
- Sensory Garden Pathway
- Turf
- Pergola - Shade Structure
- Water Play (Misters on Pergola & Water Table/Flume)
- Garden Beds
- New Slide (Layout is compliant with fall zones)
- New Slide (Layout should be compliant with regulations and fall zones. Verify on site)
- Remove a piece of the existing play structure & replace with Poured in Place Surfacing with Mounds
- Planted Archway
- Raised Planters
- New Boulder Walls (retain grade)
- Natural Construction Area
- Balance Logs
- Wood Teepees
- Remove Garden & Build a Loose Parts Deck
- Loose Parts Storage
First Steps at Monarch Montessori

LOCATION
Denver, Colorado
Denver County

SITE TYPE
Non-profit, Child Care Center
Demonstration Site 2018

CHILDREN SERVED
Enrolled: 130
Ages: Infant-Preschool

“Staff have been really, really excited.
I have numerous staff come up after
the ECHO trainings and say, ‘I love
that. That was my favorite. Let's do
that again.’”

“We have had these awesome build
days... It’s been great to see how
many parents actually show up...
It’s engaged our families in ways we
haven’t been able to before.”

Before

Site Visit - Toddler Space

Site Visit - Preschool Space

Site Visit - Preschool Space

Progress

Professional Development - Loose Parts

Build Day - Pergolas, Reading Nook, etc.

Build Day - Teepees, Race Track, etc.
First Steps at Monarch Montessori
of Denver
Demonstration Site
Denver, Colorado, Denver County

Preschool Illustrative Site Plan
January 2019

Legend
1. Traditional Discovery
2. Learn & Grow
3. Manipulate & Build
4. 1/2 mile Walking Loop

Legend
- Traditional Discovery
- Learn & Grow
- Manipulate & Build
- 1/2 mile Walking Loop

Scale: 1" = 10' on a 24" x 36" board size
North
This image is conceptual and for graphic purposes only. Plans are subject to change.
These images are conceptual and for graphic purposes only to suggest activities and educational elements that can be used on the outdoor learning space.
Fraser Valley Elementary Preschool

**LOCATION**
Fraser, Colorado
Grand County

**SITE TYPE**
School District, Preschool
Seed Site 2018

**CHILDREN SERVED**
Enrolled: 19
Ages: Preschool

“**We love our mud kitchen!! Our handy man who built it for us is now working with 2 other preschools to build mud kitchens. We feel proud that we started a trend for the community.”**

“When we installed the small boulder and stumps, we noticed a HUGE decrease in the amount of time the children played on the man-made structure... Their play is more imaginative on the stumps/rocks, playing games that involve crocodiles, trolls and dragons.”
Fraser Valley Elementary Preschool
Seed Site
Fraser, Colorado / Grand County

Illustrative Site Plan
December 2018

Outdoor Learning Environment

1. Entrances
2. Preschool Area
3. Outdoor Classroom / Garden
4. Wildlife Habitat

- Science / STEM Area (chalk board) or reading circle
- Outdoor Classroom with Shade Structure & Picnic Benches
- Existing Swings
- Boulder Scramble
- Large Stumpy Stoppers
- Tire Maze with Grasses Planted in Tires (Tires stacked 1 or 2 high)

Existing Building

- Existing Play Structure to Remain
- Sunflower Garden
- Raised Garden Beds / Gathering Garden
- Fairy Garden
- Arbor
- Crusher Fines Pathway (Colorado River Pathway with Bridges over)
- Gravel Play & Water Play

Outdoor Classroom with Shade Structure & Picnic Benches

- Existing Building
- Deck
- Sand Kitchen
- Water Play (Water Table / Flume & Existing Pipes)
- Art Area with Hanging Heater Lamps / Lights
- Balance Logs
- Sand Play with Steppers
- Arti...
LOCATION
Longmont, Colorado
Boulder County

SITE TYPE
Non-profit, Child Care Center
Seed Site 2018

CHILDREN SERVED
Enrolled: 40
Ages: Preschool-School Age
(Toddler program opening soon)

“I hope that we will be able to add more loose parts and different things... so the playground will continue to be new. I also hope that our flowers will grow so that our peace garden will feel like a quiet private spot... we can add some magnifying glasses to encourage really examining the flowers and insects.”
Illustrative Site Plan
Gateway Montessori School
Seed Site
Longmont, Colorado, Boulder County
October 2018
HEALground at Meadows Park Community Center

LOCATION
Colorado Springs, Colorado
El Paso County

SITE TYPE
Public, Community Center
Seed Site 2019

CHILDREN SERVED
Children under 5 with access: 2000
Ages: All ages

“This relatively small project stands a very good chance of establishing an exciting precedent that could manifest in scores of future projects...and improve the health and well-being of thousands of residents in the process.”

“The expertise, support, collaborative spirit and political savvy of [ECHO] has been instrumental in establishing support of this and future outdoor spaces to consider natural elements versus simple, traditional playground units.”

Before

Site Visit - Existing Space

Progress

Build Day - Mural

Site Updates - Refreshed Gardens

Site Updates - ADA Path & Removed Fence
In the Beginning Infant/Toddler Center

**LOCATION**
Eaton, Colorado
Weld County

**SITE TYPE**
Profit, Child Care Center
Seed Site 2019

**CHILDREN SERVED**
Enrolled: N/A
Ages: Infant-Toddler

“Our goal for this project is to incorporate nature as an integral, joyful part of children's daily learning... By providing areas such as music and movement, art, building, gardening, sand, water and mud play, we will be able to offer endless possibilities for play and discovery.”

“They [the ECHO team] were great to work with and are very knowledgeable of what we need to bring back to a play area!”

---

*Before*

*Progress*

Under Construction

Site Visit - Toddler Space

Under Construction

Site Visit - Toddler Space

Under Construction

Site Visit - Toddler Space

Site Visit - Toddler Space
Joe Shoemaker Elementary School

**LOCATION**
Denver, Colorado
Denver County

**SITE TYPE**
School District, Preschool
Seed Site 2018

**CHILDREN SERVED**
Enrolled: 56
Ages: Preschool

“We aim to have more natural elements and separated areas for the children which will allow them to have more intimate play situations surrounded by beauty leading to more purposeful play...I am looking forward to when we can implement the earth play area in the far corner, as the children love digging!”

“Another success was having the support from ECHO experts to help lead conversations with Denver Public School [representatives.]”
LOCATION
Centennial, Colorado
Arapahoe County

SITE TYPE
Non-profit, Child Care Center & Preschool
Seed Site 2018

CHILDREN SERVED
Enrolled: 63
Ages: Toddler-School Age

“We are really hoping to make these outdoor spaces as interactive and engaging as possible. We are so excited to add items like a mud kitchen, music wall and sensory pathways very soon so that when our students are outside they are constantly learning while they play.”

“A new naturalized play space will be an incredible model for families to use for when they feel ready to take their kids into the great outdoors.”
“We want to create a play space that our children and their families can enjoy. It is important that all children have access to quality environments. No child should be left behind or excluded from these experiences. Many of our children do not have the opportunities at home to truly experience nature. Therefore, we want to bring it to them.”
Illustrative Site Plan

February 2019

Longmont, Colorado

Jump Start ELC & Quality Childcare Seed Site

Outdoor Learning Environments

1. Front Entrance
2. Preschool Area
3. Outdoor Classroom / Kitchen
4. Infant / Toddler Area
5. Welcome Garden / Wildlife Habitat
6. School-age Area
**KidStreet Accessible Outdoor Learning Environment**

**LOCATION**
Aurora, Colorado
Adams County

**SITE TYPE**
Public, Children’s Hospital
Seed Site 2019

**CHILDREN SERVED**
Children under 5 with access: 20
Ages: Infant-Preschool

> “Our goal is to create an outdoor environment that can encourage a playful atmosphere in which every child is able to thrive by improving their motor, sensory, cognitive, and social skills.”

> “We anticipate the greatest success will be having play opportunities that are more accessible to children with disabilities and medical concerns.”
KidStreet Accessible Outdoor Learning Environment
Seed Site
Aurora, Colorado

Illustrative Site Plan

June 2019

Outdoor Learning Environments

1. Front Entrance
2. Outdoor Classroom / Garden

Front Entrance
- Entrance (Sign / Arbor)
- Garden / Gathering Space
- Raised Garden Bins (Short & Tall for Accessibility)
- Raised Garden Boxes (Various dimensions x 1'-6" Ht.)
- Spools
- Infant / Toddler Deck (6" Ht. with Rails)
  - (Stairs on one side and ramp on the other)
  - Hang Mirror on Wall
  - Sensory Panels
  - Walking Rail
  - Reading Area
  - Flowering Plants and Tree around the deck

Entrance (Sign / Arbor)
- Garden / Gathering Space
- Raised Garden Bins (Short & Tall for Accessibility)
- Raised Garden Boxes (Various dimensions x 1'-6" Ht.)
- Spools
- Infant / Toddler Deck (6" Ht. with Rails)
  - (Stairs on one side and ramp on the other)
  - Hang Mirror on Wall
  - Sensory Panels
  - Walking Rail
  - Reading Area
  - Flowering Plants and Tree around the deck

Outdoor Classroom / Garden
- Hands - In Water Play Rill with Enclosed Water Tank Storage / Potable Water only
- Hands - In Water Table
- Raised Sand Tables
- Play Kitchen
- Storage Shed

* When printed at 24" x 36" size
* This image is conceptual and for graphic purposes only. Plans are subject to change.
Kinderkirk Preschool and Child Care Center

LOCATION
Pueblo, Colorado
Pueblo County

SITE TYPE
Non-profit, Child Care Center
Seed Site 2019

CHILDREN SERVED
Enrolled: 72
Ages: Infant-Preschool
(School Age program opening soon)

“We have a great pool of volunteers and have had many donations so far... We have started to work on the fencing and border of our new space! We got in one volunteer day before the snow hit and we had great success... The children are excited to know that we are getting a new playground for them to explore.”
This image is conceptual and for graphic purposes only. Plans are subject to change.

Existing Preschool
- Dry Creek Bed with Bridges & Planting Beds
- Trees & Planting Beds
- Playhouses & Teepee Village
- Multi-Use Open Space / Turf
- Loose Parts Deck & Music Walls
- Balance Logs & Balance Poles
- Sitting Logs / Performance Stage
- Trees & Reading Circle Area
- Science & Art Center (Balance Scale)
- Scale
- Water Play
- Outdoor Classroom / Art / Chalk Boards on Fence

Future Toddler
- Balance Logs / Stumps / Boulders
- Tunnel
- Gravel / Truck Play
- Sand Play
- Planted Archway
- Wood Deck / Reading Nook
- Bridge

Infant / Toddler
- Balance Logs / Stumps / Boulders
- Bike Parking & Turn Around & Storage
- Sensory Pathway
- Raised Sand/Water Play
- Planting Bed
- Balance Log
- Stroller Parking
- Walking Rail

Existing Building

Existing Garage

Existing Preschool

Future Preschool / School Age

Existing Toddler/Infant

Future Toddler

Future Shared Garden

Outdoor Learning Environments

1. Entrances / Exits
2. Existing Preschool
3. Future Preschool / School Age
4. Existing Toddler/Infant
5. Future Toddler
6. Future Shared Garden

Sensory Pathway
- Art & Science Area
- Music Wall / Drums
- Bike Parking / Lean-To / Storage
- Outdoor Classroom / Rock Wall Seating / Tables / Shade Structure
- Arbor / Entrance / New Gate / New Fencing
- Seating Area / Boulders / Concrete Bin Blocks

Ornamental Grass Maze
- Court Games (Four Square / Half Court Basketball)
- Sitting Area (under trees)
- Teepee / Camping Area
- Multi-Use Lawn with Mounds

10' 20' 30' 40'

Scale: 1" = 10'

North

This image is conceptual and for graphic purposes only. Plans are subject to change.
La Escuelita Preschool

LOCATION
Gardner, Colorado
Huerfano County

SITE TYPE
School District, Preschool
Seed Site 2019

CHILDREN SERVED
Enrolled: 10
Ages: Preschool

“We see ECHO as a stepping stone towards a beautiful outdoor environment... It will provide healthy options such as green space, gardens, physical activity, and healthy eating. Our community is aware of our vision and eager to help.”
La Escuelita Preschool
Seed Site
Gardner, Colorado

Illustrative Site Plan
September 2019

This image is conceptual and for graphic purposes only. Plans are subject to change.
Lake Dillon Preschool and Early Learning Center

**LOCATION**
Dillon, Colorado
Summit County

**SITE TYPE**
Non-profit, Head Start, Child Care Center
Demonstration Site 2019

**CHILDREN SERVED**
Enrolled: 134
Ages: Infant-School Age

“[We had] one girl balancing on the stump... it’s amazing what she’s learning by just having it there...being able to use our outdoor environment to its fullest.”

“Messy play was a HUGE success! Just to understand that it’s ok to get messy...I think that’s a barrier for many teachers.”

---

**Before**

Site Visit - Infant Space

Site Visit - Toddler Space

Site Visit - Preschool Space

**Progress**

Design Workshop - Presentation

Professional Development - Messy Play

Under Construction
LOCATION
Denver, Colorado
Denver County

SITE TYPE
Profit, Child Care Center
Seed Site 2019

CHILDREN SERVED
Enrolled: 21
Ages: Toddler-School Age

“Children in our program aren’t necessarily having opportunities to explore the natural environment... we are committed to providing our children with a beautiful, engaging, natural outdoor play environment that encourages social interaction, gross motor skill building, and appreciation for nature.”

Before

Progress

Site Visit - Preschool Space

Under Construction

Site Visit - Preschool Space

Under Construction

Site Visit - Preschool Space

Under Construction
Illustrative Site Plan

Lil Tot’s Child Care Center
Seed Site
Denver, Colorado

May 2019

This image is conceptual and for graphic purposes only. Plans are subject to change.
**LOCATION**
Fort Collins, Colorado
Larimer County

**SITE TYPE**
Profit, Child Care Center
Seed Site 2018

**CHILDREN SERVED**
Enrolled: 71
Ages: Infant-Preschool

“My hopes for our outdoor space are to create an environment that sparks the kids’ imaginative minds and create deeper connections and appreciation of our earth and those living things around us.”

“I’m enjoying watching the children have tea parties, and dance parties on our stages that have been built.”

---

**Before**

- Site Visit - Infant Space
- Site Visit - Preschool Space
- Site Visit - Preschool Space

**Progress**

- Site Updates - Retaining Wall
- Site Updates - Sensory Lock Wall
- Site Updates - Dramatic Play Deck
Little Bear’s Child Care - Hampshire Seed Site
Fort Collins, Colorado

Illustrative Site Plan
November 2018

This image is conceptual and for graphic purposes only. Plans are subject to change.
“The greatest success of this project has been the rally of support we have gotten from the community. All of our tables and benches have been donated... Teachers report that the extended outdoor time has boosted their moods, and increases the children’s attention spans. Parents love the additional gathering space to connect and let their children build relationships outside of the classroom.”
Illustrative Site Plan 1
July 2019

Outdoor Learning Environments

1. Toddler 1 Area
2. Church Entrance
3. Multi-use Area
4. Garden Area
5. School Entrance
6. Toddler 2 Area
7. Preschool Area

Container:

- Teepee
- Extended Path (keep retaining wall; add steps)
- Embankment Slide and Secondary Path
- Music and Sensory Play on Fence
- Proposed Fence Extension
- Sand / Earth Play; Play House (to left)
- Trees
- Enhanced Garden with Path
- Access Path
- Multi-use Seating Area Under Existing Tree
- Art / Chalk Panels and Mural on Utilities Fence
- Raised Garden Beds
- Memorial Garden (relocated bench)
- Welcome / Gathering Area (patio, chairs, tables, garden, etc.)
- Arbor over Toddler 2 Area Entrance

When printed at 24" x 36" size
Scale: 1" = 10'

* This image is conceptual and for graphic purposes only. Plans are subject to change.
Little Blessings
Preschool & Kindergarten
Seed Site | Parker, Colorado

**Illustrative Site Plan 2**

**July 2019**

This image is conceptual and for graphic purposes only. Plans are subject to change.

Outdoor Learning Environments

1. Toddler 1 Area
2. Church Entrance
3. Multi-use Area
4. Garden Area
5. School Entrance
6. Toddler 2 Area
7. Preschool Area

Source: Web
Source: Web
Source: Web
Source: Web
Source: Web
Source: Web
Source: Web

* When printed at 24” x 36” size

This image is conceptual and for graphic purposes only. Plans are subject to change.
LOCATION
Commerce City, Colorado
Adams County

SITE TYPE
Profit, Child Care Center
Seed Site 2018

CHILDREN SERVED
Enrolled: 65
Ages: Toddler-School Age

“The greatest success to our outdoor space has been our gardens... The children are able to see, smell and touch the vegetables. They love to help us water every day and are eager to help us pick the vegetables that are ready to eat. Our garden sparks so many questions and curiosity about science”

“The entire atmosphere of our center has changed... The children, families and staff have really made a huge transformation in working as a team to help maintain our garden and the outdoor spaces.”
Little Giants Learning Center  
Seed Site (Sitio de Semilla)  
Commerce City, Colorado  
Adams County

Illustrative Site Plan  
(Plan ilustrativo del sitio)  
December 2018

Outdoor Learning Environments  
(Ambientes de aprendizaje al aire libre)

1. Front Entrance (Entrada Principal)  
2. Preschool Area (Área preescolar)  
3. Outdoor Classroom / Garden (Aula al aire libre / jardín)  
4. Toddler Area (Área de niños pequeños)

- Grassy Maze (Laberinto de hierba)
- Water Play (water play)
- Existing Parking (Estacionamiento existente)
- Storage (Depósito)
- Music Wall (Muro musical)
- Water Play (juego de agua)
- Deck (Plataforma)
- Playhouse or Deck (Casita de juego o plataforma)
- Primary Path (Sendero principal)
- Water Play (juego de agua)
- Art Wall (Muro de arte)
- Existing Building (Edificio existente)
- Parent Gathering Area & Arbor (Espacio de encuentro para los padres de niños)
- Tire Planter Maze (Cobertizo de llantas)
- Natural Construction Area (Construcción natural)
- Mud Kitchen (Cocina para jugar con barro)
- Natural Loose Parts / Gravel Play (Objetos naturales / juego de grava)
- Habitat Discovery Path (Sendero de descubrimiento de hábitat)
- Secret Nook (Escondite)
- Pedestrian Bridge (Puente / Plataforma de madera)
- Art Wall & Art Area (Pared de arte y área de arte)
- Balance Log (Registro de saldo)
- Playhouses (Casita de juego)
- Archway (Arco)
- Bench (Banco)
- Raised Planters (Cama de plantas elevada)
- Storage (Depósito)
- Bridge (Puente)
- Earth Play (Juego con tierra)
- Sand Play (arenoso)
- Tipi (Tipi)
- Tree Cookies (Galletas de arbol)
- Grass Labyrinth (Laberinto de hierba)
- Habitat Discovery Path (Sendero de descubrimiento)
- Grass Labyrinth (Laberinto de hierba)
- Bridge (Puente)
- Raised Deck at Door Level (Cubierta elevado a nivel de la puerta)
- Balance Area (Área de equilibrio)
- Balance ‘Poles’ (Postes de equilibrio)
- Music Wall (Muro musical)
- Existing Shed, Relocated (Cobertizo existente reubicado)
- Gazebo / Mirador

Scale (Extensión): 5” = 10’ at 24” x 36” print size.
This image is conceptual and for graphic purposes only. Plans are subject to change.
 Esta imagen es conceptual y se ofrece solo con fines gráficos. Los planos están sujetos a cambios.
Little Lambs, Trinity Early Learning Center

LOCATION
Fort Morgan, Colorado
Morgan County

SITE TYPE
Non-profit, Child Care Center
Seed Site 2018

CHILDREN SERVED
Enrolled: 58
Ages: Preschool

“The excitement we see on the children's faces the morning after a build day is priceless... The greatest success is creating an environment that fosters the children's total development while having a space that the teachers enjoy hanging out in...”

“The initial planning session, sitting with a designer and laying out a plan was so empowering. I could not have asked for a better experience with such a wonderful caring staff that truly wanted to see our program succeed.”

Before

Site Visit - Preschool Space

Progress

Site Updates - Tire Planters

Build Day - Pathway & Removed Structures

Build Day - Dry Creek Bed & Stumps

Site Visit - Preschool Space

Site Visit - Preschool Space

Site Visit - Preschool Space
Little Sprouts Learning Center

LOCATION
Granby, Colorado
Grand County

SITE TYPE
Non-profit, Child Care Center
Demonstration Site 2019

CHILDREN SERVED
Enrolled: 52
Ages: Infant-School Age

“Just having the design and having the idea put to paper was really huge for us... We’re really excited to see a lot of these changes happening and the kids’ excitement...it’s going to create more time for imagination and being creative in their outdoor area.”

“I see that the teachers are engaging more, creating those moments for having more purposeful play outdoors and taking art out...”
LOCATION
Meeker, Colorado
Rio Blanco County

SITE TYPE
School District, Preschool
Seed Site 2019

CHILDREN SERVED
Enrolled: 56
Ages: Preschool

“We were very fortunate to have had a large majority of this project donated by local entities.”

“Our hope is to offer our students the opportunities for engaging and exciting play in our outdoor environment... we can envision the outdoor learning environment providing fantastic learning opportunities in the social-emotional, science, math, literacy, social studies and physical domains.”
Illustrative Site Plan

Meeker Preschool Seed Site
Meeker, Colorado
September 2019

Outdoor Learning Environments
1. Entrances
2. Outdoor Classroom
3. Existing Garden

- Manufactured Play Equipment Storage
- Performance / Activity Deck
- Loose Parts Buckets
- Shade Structure
- Water / Earth Play
- Mud Kitchen
- Secondary Pathway
- Manufactured Play Equipment
- Art Boards
- Existing Shade Structure
- Multi-purpose Lawn Space
- Music Play or Hanging Library Space
- Alligator & Steppers in Dry Creek Bed / Mixed Rock Sizes with Pea Gravel
- Sensory / Pollinator Garden
- Playhouses
- Storage
- 4' Primary Pathway
- Water Play (Gutters or something attached to fence)
- Grass / Hillside
- Balance Area (Balance Poles & logs)
- Bridge
- Planted Archway
- Small Deck
- Natural Construction / Dramatic Play
- Music Play on Fence
- Teepee
- Arbor
- Welcome Garden
- Boulder Seating / CO Shines Safety Measures
- Storage / Bike Storage
- Balance Poles
- Dramatic Play
- Earth Play

Loose Parts
Storage / Bike Storage
Dry Stream Bed with Bridge
Web

When printed at 24" x 36" size
Scale: 1" = 10'-0"
"We are highly motivated to enhance our outdoor learning spaces so the children we serve have an inspiring environment they can’t wait to play and explore in...Because many of our children experience disadvantages that make their lives challenging, it is important to us that we provide them with as many safe places as possible to explore their creative and intellectual potential as little learners."
Outdoor Learning Environments

1. Front Entrance
2. Toddler 1 Area
3. Mixed-age Area
4. School-age Court
5. Future Toddler 2 Area
6. Preschool Area

Illustrative Site Plan - 1

November 2019

* This image is conceptual and for graphic purposes only. Plans are subject to change.
Outdoor Learning Environments

1. Front Entrance
2. Toddler 1 Area
3. Mixed-age Area
4. School-age Court
5. Future Toddler 2 Area
6. Preschool Area

Illustrative Site Plan - 2
November 2019

*When printed at 24" x 36" size
This image is conceptual and for graphic purposes only. Plans are subject to change.
Mountain Munchkins Childcare and Preschool Center

LOCATION
Mountain Village, Colorado
San Miguel County

SITE TYPE
Non-profit, Child Care Center & Preschool
Seed Site 2018

CHILDREN SERVED
Enrolled: 50
Ages: Infant-Preschool

“The children and parents seem to really love the progress and are excited to help in the process.”

“Our greatest success this summer was the completion of the cement bike paths. Both areas provide a safe course for children to ride bikes and scooters in the yard.”
Mountain Munchkins
Seed Site
Mountain Village, Colorado

February 2019

Outdoor Learning Environments
1 Preschool Area 2 Infant Area 3 Toddler Area

Shaded Sand or Earth Play
Mud Kitchen
Playhouse
Deck (with vegetated trellis, storage, and music play)
Bird Houses/Existing Boulder Wall
Art Wall and Project Table
Movable Spool Tables for Outdoor Classroom
Cubby Corner (chalk/magnet wall, string lights, storage, tire seats)
Storage (on top of existing retaining wall)

Wheeled-Toy Storage under Storage Structure
Primary Path Addition (4' wide - concrete)
Planted Garden Bed (in-ground)
Vertical Climbing Wall or Chimney
Loose Parts / Gravel Play Area (with storage baskets on fence)
Balance Ring (stumps, boulders, logs - must be under 18” tall)
Water Play (water wall and table)

Tire Planters
New Fence and Gate for Infant OLE
Deck with Seating
Sensory Gardens (both sides of fence)
Shared Shade Structure (with colored/shaped shadows; see photo)
Art Corner
Existing Concrete (paint except for portion that includes new path)

Deck with Music Play on Fence
Small Bridge over Dry Stream Bed
Embankment Slide
Bridge over Primary Path (4’ wide - concrete)
Secondary Path (stone/tree cookie steppers)

Share this image is conceptual and for graphic purposes only. Plans are subject to change.

Scale: 1” = 10’ when printed at 24” x 36”
North
Mountain Shadows KinderCare Learning Center

LOCATION
Colorado Springs, Colorado
El Paso County

SITE TYPE
Profit, Child Care Center
Seed Site 2019

CHILDREN SERVED
Enrolled: 183
Ages: Infant-School Age

“The children in our care deserve a stimulating, fun, spacious place to run around, play, explore their surroundings, and enjoy nature... time spent at our center is their only time to experience the outdoors safely and in an environment that stimulates learning and curiosity.”

Before

Progress

Under Construction

Site Visit - Multi-use Space

Under Construction

Site Visit - Multi-use Space

Under Construction

Site Visit - Multi-use Space
Outdoor Learning Environments

1. School-age Area
2. Infant Area
3. Toddler Area
4. Preschool Area
5. Multi-use Area

Source: NWF
Earth Play

Source: Web
Dry Stream Bed

Mountain Shadows
KinderCare Learning Center
Seed Site | Colorado Springs, CO

Illustrative Site Plan
November 2019

When printed at 24” x 36” size
Scale*: 1” = 10’

* This image is conceptual and for graphic purposes only. Plans are subject to change.
Mountain View Village Nature Play Yards

LOCATION
Leadville, Colorado
Lake County

SITE TYPE
Public, Mobile Home Community
Demonstration Site 2019

CHILDREN SERVED
Children under 5 with access: 500
Ages: All ages

“Leadville is a community that recognizes the importance of youth and family connection to the outdoors, nature-based learning, active living, health equity, and culturally-informed and inclusive opportunities for recreation and community connections... Our current spaces are less than inspiring and feel uncomfortable and unsafe... a revitalized play space will be transformative for the whole community.”

Before
Site Visit - Existing Space

Progress
Design Workshop - Site Planning
Under Construction
Site Visit - Existing Space

Site Visit - Existing Space
Under Construction
Mountain View Village
Nature Play Yards
Sitio de demostración | Demonstration Site
Leadville, Colorado

Plan ilustrativo del sitio 1 - Illustrative Site Plan 1
March 2019
Nature Play Area at Anderson Park

LOCATION
Wheat Ridge, Colorado
Jefferson County

SITE TYPE
Public, City Park
Seed Site 2018

CHILDREN SERVED
Children under 5 with access: 2000
Ages: All ages

“Wilmore-Davis Elementary school follows the Project-based learning curriculum paradigm... The City offered pods in the Nature Play Area as potential PBL projects to staff at Wilmore-Davis and, the entire school decided to be involved!.. This project has engaged the whole school and I have already had comments from staff about the excitement the project is generating... We hope these students also experience a sense of accomplishment and connection to nature and their community.”
Nature Play at Anderson Park
Seed Site
Wheat Ridge, Colorado

Illustrative Site Plan
December 2018
LOCATION
Nederland, Colorado
Boulder County

SITE TYPE
Non-profit, Child Care Center
Seed Site 2019

CHILDREN SERVED
Enrolled: 30
Ages: Preschool-School Age

“We want a physically appealing site and one that the children are stimulated by... having natural materials available such as dirt, sticks, sand, and water is mandatory for a stimulating outdoor play area for preschoolers. These items support creative play, team work, scientific discoveries, and sensory exploration.”
New Explorers Learning Center
Seed Site | Nederland, CO

Illustrative Site Plan
December 2019

Outdoor Learning Environments

1. "Field Trip" Area* (1-2)
   *Design subject to change based on actual location of trees, slope, etc.
   1. Secondary Path (TBD)
   2. Primary Path (TBD)

2. Play Area (3-30)
   3. Rabbit Hutch
   4. Large Elevated Deck
   5. Outdoor Classroom Area
   6. Entrance/Mudroom
   7. Ramp to Lower Level
   8. Raised Garden Terrace Area
   9. Activity/Performance Deck
   10. Terrace Retaining Wall
   11. Quiet Nook under Tree
   12. Relocated Gate
   13. Dry Stream Bed with Arbor
   14. Small Climbing Structure
   15. Secondary Path with Bridge
   16. Tire Planter and Small Path
   17. Boulder Climb Area (18”H)
   18. Shaded Earth Play Area
   19. Bench and Garden
   20. Timber/Stone Stairs
   21. Stump Stepper Climb
   22. Embankment Slide
   23. Embankment Climbing Wall
   24. Existing Swings
   25. Art/Chalk/Music on Fence
   26. Play House and Kitchen
   27. Driveway / Bike Riding Area
   28. Entrance Path with Bench
   29. Ramp to Entrance
   30. Loose Parts Area with Turf

*When printed at 24” x 36” size
Scale: 1” = 10’

This image is conceptual and for graphic purposes only. Plans are subject to change.
“Our mission is to cultivate the personal and intellectual growth of our children through experiential environmental learning and a collaborative focus on respect, responsibility and community... Creating an outdoor learning environment that integrates and aligns with our natural geography of North Routt will enable our students to build meaningful and lasting, active relationships of learning and play with our local environments.”
North Routt Preschool & Early Learning Center
Seed Site
Clark, Colorado

Illustrative Site Plan
September 2019

Outdoor Learning Environments

1. Entrances
2. Outdoor Classroom
3. Garden / Habitat Garden / Nature Walk
4. Toddler
5. Preschool

Toddler
- Reading Nook / Archway / Cozy Nook
- Outdoor Classroom Space
- Deck
- Raised Planter Boxes
- Hang Chalk Board on Shed
- Art Area
- Art Walls (Chalk, Acrylic, Magnetic, etc.)
- Art Spools
- Tables
- Shade Sails
- Storage (as needed)
- Art Stumps
- Sensory Garden / Habitat Garden
- Multi-Use Turf / Movable Water Play Equipment / Water Walls on the back of Raised Planters
- Parent Gathering Area / Bench / Large Boulder Seats
- Sensory Pathway & Sensory Walk
- Raised Planters / Trellis on Back
- Stumps, Rounded Rock, Logs, etc.
- Sensory Plants

Preschool
- Bike Parking / Parent Gathering
- Art Area / Outdoor Classroom / Chalk Board / Acrylic Paint Board / Raised Garden Planters
- Existing Sand to Remain / Add Play Kitchen
- Loose Parts / Scale / Whiskey Barrels / Sticks / Stones / Tree Cookies / Pine Cones / Etc.
- Performance Deck / Music Play / Dramatic Play / Boat Dock / Music Wall hanging on Fence
- Play Boat / Gravel Play (pea gravel & rounded river rock mixed / Flagstone Pathway)
- Small Wood Bridge to new play zone
- New Climbing Equipment (Mini Arch Climber)

Scale: 1" = 10'

* When printed at 24" x 36" size
This Image is conceptual and for graphic purposes only. Plans are subject to change.
“From the time the sun hits the playground in the morning, until it leaves in the evening, there are students on the playground... The children often are begging their parents to stay longer, and they are coming outside school and on weekends to play in the space. Our students with sensory processing issues and autism are MUCH happier and more engaged now. Our new space has made a tremendous difference in the amount of time all of our students (even the upper classmen) spend outside.”
Ouray School Playground
Seed Site
Ouray, Colorado

Illustrative Site Plan
October 2019

- Earth Play (with storage benches, kitchen, and accessible sand table)
- Performance Deck (with ramp, backdrops, and storage)
- Boat Play
- Gathering Area (with boulder seating)
- Flagstone Pathway with Arbors
- Tertiary Pathway (tree cookies, logs, stone, bridge, etc.)
- Garden Beds
- Music Play Area
- Drainage Channel and Dry Stream Bed
- Ga Ga Ball Pit
- Seating Area over Irrigation Control
- Stumps/Boulders for Container Plants
- Wildlife Habitat
- Water and Ball Play
- Tertiary Pathway (tree cookies, logs, stone, bridge, etc.)
- Earth Play
- Gathering Area
- Music Play

Source: NWF
Source: NLI
Source: Web

* When printed at 24" x 36" size

Scale*: 1" = 10'

* This image is conceptual and for graphic purposes only. Plans are subject to change.
LOCATION
Conifer, Colorado
Jefferson County

SITE TYPE
Public, Community Center
Seed Site 2019

CHILDREN SERVED
Children under 5 with access: 200
Ages: All ages

“[O]ur staff continually sees the affect outdoor play has on the children... [they] can engage in a different type of play; their imagination is inspired by what they see in nature. They play with water, cut flowers, and pretend they are building a fire with logs.”

“We have listened to the things children are saying about the project. One child said that the fairy garden is so pretty and little... a parent commented that she now wants to make a fairy garden at home.”
“We want all our students to have daily access to a quality outdoor learning environment. We believe that our outdoor time should support cognitive, physical, social, and emotional development through safe and interactive outdoor learning stations. We also believe that if our early childhood professionals can be trained to use our outdoor space efficiently, then our children and staff will benefit through interactions that will foster a love for the outdoor classroom.”
Outdoor Learning Environments
1. Front Entrance
2. Infant Area
3. Toddler 1 Area
4. Toddler 2 Area
5. Preschool Area
6. Wildlife Habitat

Dramatic Play Area (deck, storage, music, stump seats)
Arbor
Protected Wildlife Garden
Multi-use Lawn
Wheel-toy Storage and Painted Shapes on Concrete
Sunflower House with Deck
Bridge over Dry Stream Bed
Tepee
French Drain
Raised Garden with Archway
Log & Boulder Balance Area
Outdoor Classroom with Storage
Natural Construction and Loose Parts Area with Storage
Secondary Path
Earth Play with Kitchen
Project Area (tables, art house, art walls, etc.)

Decks with Bench
Tire Planters
Artificial Turf
Sensory Wall and Pull-up Rails

OLE Entry Transition Area
Sensory Garden
Storage
Quiet Nook
Music Play
Play House
Primary Path (4')
Existing Shade Structure
Small Activity Deck
Multi-use Lawn with Storage
Multi-use Lawn with Play Houses
Teacher Entrance Garden with Archway
Earth Play with Kitchen
Outdoor Classroom
Natural Construction and Balance Area
Extended Primary Path (4')
Quiet Nook / Art Area

Source: Web

Restoration Christian Academy
Seed Site
Aurora, Colorado

Illustrative Site Plan
July 2019

* When printed at 24" x 36" size
This Image is conceptual and for graphic purposes only. Plans are subject to change.
“My dream is for children to have the nature that I had growing up... we played outside and I played with bugs, I played in the ditch, and I played in the water... that's what I want for every child... I would like to see plants and trees and grasses that children can hide and play in. Water that they can freely get in and flowers everywhere. That's what I want. That's what I want for children.”
Rocky Mountain Children's Discovery Center - Demonstration Site
Cañon City, Colorado

Illustrative Site Plan
June 2018

Legend

- Existing Tree
- Proposed Trees
- Stepping Stones
- Log Seats / Steppers
- Tree Cookies
- Perennials & Groundcover
- Shrub
- Grasses
- Wood Structure / Deck
- Pea Gravel
- Concrete
- Existing Rubber Mulch
- Turf
- Mulch Surface
- Sand
- Pour-in-Place Rubber Surface
- Fence / Plant Protection Rail

Outdoor Learning Environments

1. Front Entrance
2. Preschool Area
3. Infant/Toddler Area
4. Vegetable Garden
5. Habitat Garden

Scale: 1” = 10’ @ 24” x 36” North

This image is conceptual and for graphic purposes only. Plans are subject to change.
Sidewalk’s End Montessori School

LOCATION
Colorado Springs, Colorado
El Paso County

SITE TYPE
Profit, Child Care Center
Seed Site 2018

CHILDREN SERVED
Enrolled: 86
Ages: Preschool-School Age

“We strongly believe in and have seen first hand the benefits of more outdoor time for children... Children flourish in an atmosphere of love and respect, and it is our mission to create such a place.”

“[Our biggest success has been] the involvement of parents/community and alumni of the school - it showed an overwhelming support for the project.”
LOCATION
North Glenn, Colorado
Adams County

SITE TYPE
Profit, Child Care Center
Demonstration Site 2017

CHILDREN SERVED
Enrolled: 146
Ages: Infant-School Age

“It’s crazy to think it was two years ago that we started all of this, we’ve come a long way from two years.”

“The kids definitely love earth play and loose parts. I think those areas bring out the imagination, they can teamwork, build, and they definitely gravitate to those two spots. Before it was a lot of running and jumping. Now they interact, use language, they’re calm... their behaviors have changed.”
ILESSIVE SITE PLAN
October 2017

Outdoor Learning Environments

1. Infant Area
2. Front Entrance
3. Toddler Area
4. Preschool Area
5. Side Porch
LOCATION
Frisco, Colorado
Summit County

SITE TYPE
Non-profit, Head Start, Child Care Center
Demonstration Site 2018

CHILDREN SERVED
Enrolled: 96
Ages: Infant-Preschool

“Our greatest success has been the mindset of the staff about playing with natural objects... this summer more plants were planted... and a lot more natural materials were brought out. There’s an art table with pinecones and sticks and now leaves are coming into play... One of our teacher’s goals is to have a sensory garden because she loved the sensory gardens when we came down to the Summit last year.”

Site Visit - Toddler Space

Site Updates - New Fence

Site Visit - Preschool Space

Site Updates - Fun in the Sand!

Site Visit - Preschool Space

Under Construction
Teddy Bear Preschool

LOCATION
Dolores, Colorado
Montezuma County

SITE TYPE
Non-profit, Head Start, School District, Child Care Center | Seed Site 2019

CHILDREN SERVED
Enrolled: 85
Ages: Infant-Preschool

“We have noticed BIG changes in the infant and toddler behaviors. They are content and happy to explore all of the dirt, sand, flowers, grass, water, sensory boards, up and down the mound, the deck and the mud kitchen. All children are actively engaged with their environment and loving it.”

“Our children need to grow up surrounded by nature to learn what it is and learn to respect and appreciate nature.”
Teddy Bear Preschool
Seed Site
Dolores, Colorado

October 2019

Illustrative Site Plan

This image is conceptual and for graphic purposes only. Plans are subject to change.

Scale*: 1” = 10’

* When printed at 24” x 36” size
**LOCATION**
Lakewood, Colorado
Jefferson County

**SITE TYPE**
Non-profit, Child Care Center
Seed Site 2018

**CHILDREN SERVED**
Enrolled: 56
Ages: Toddler-Preschool

“The children have a greater interest to be out on the playground. They are exploring their outdoor space more. Every corner of the playground has now turned into a classroom for them. Physical activity has increased in our outdoor spaces, as well as, cooperative and collaborative play. Children are also engaging in more conversations with each other and playing with children that they might not have played with before.”
LOCATION
Fort Collins, Colorado
Larimer County

SITE TYPE
Public, Community Center
Seed Site 2018

CHILDREN SERVED
Children under 5 with access: 101
Ages: All ages

“During the growing season, we were able to incorporate produce grown in the garden into the meals we prepare on site. This was a great success because the children seemed more interested and willing to try new vegetables and herbs that they had seen and interacted with in the garden. Having children experience, engage and taste produce from the garden has increased their exposure to new vegetables, hopefully increasing the likelihood of continued healthy eating.”

The Family Center – La Familia

Before

Site Visit - Existing Space

Progress

Site Updates - Garden

Site Updates - Garden

Site Updates - Garden

Site Visit - Existing Space

Site Visit - Existing Space

Site Visit - Existing Space

Site Visit - Existing Space

Under Construction
El Centro de Aprendizaje Familiar - La Familia
Sitio de Demoniación (Sitio de demostración)
Fort Collins, Colorado

Plan ilustrativo del sitio (Illustrative Site Plan)

July 2018

Legend (Leyenda del mapa)

- Existing Tree (Árbol existente)
- Proposed Fruit Tree (Árbol frutal propuesto)
- Proposed Deciduous Tree (Árbol de hoja caduca propuesto)
- Proposed Small Tree (Árbol pequeño propuesto)
- Stepping Stones (Piedras para caminar)
- Log Seats / Steppers (Asientos de tronco y para caminar)
- Perennials & Groundcover (Perennes y cobertura del suelo)
- Shrubs (Arbustos)
- Grasses (Gramíneas, pastos)
- Fine Crushed Stone Pathway (Senda de arena fina)
- Concrete Pathway (Senda de concreto)
- Lawn (Césped)
- Mulch Surface (Mantillo de jardín)
- Mulch Pathway (Senda de mantillo)

Outdoor Learning Environments (Ambientes de aprendizaje al aire libre)

- Front Entrance (Entrada Principal)
- Preschool Area (Área preescolar)
- Outdoor Classroom / Garden (Aula al aire libre / Jardín)
- Toddler Area (Área de niños pequeños)
- Infant / Toddler Area (Área de bebés / niños pequeños)

This image is conceptual and for graphic purposes only. Plans are subject to change. (Esta imagen es conceptuual y se ofrece solo con fines gráficos. Las planas están sujetas a cambios.)

Scale (Escala): 1" = 10’ North (Norte)

111
The Goddard School, Arvada

LOCATION
Arvada, Colorado
Jefferson County

SITE TYPE
Profit, Child Care Center
Seed Site 2019

CHILDREN SERVED
Enrolled: 176
Ages: Infant-Preschool

“Our biggest hope is to create a space for both children and families to use... spaces where children can truly experience nature through all their senses.”

“We look forward to bringing our families outside to enjoy the natural world with their little ones... We would love to be an example to other franchised and corporate schools, showing how to increase the natural presence in our outdoor spaces while still accommodating the standards that come from a corporate level.”
Outdoor Learning Environments

1. Entrance
2. Garden

- Learning Garden with Raised Garden Beds & Garden Spool Tables
- Outdoor Classroom: 10' x 10' x 6" Ht. Deck
- Hang Chalk Board or Magnetic Board on Existing Sheds for Outdoor Classroom
- Existing Sheds to Remain
- Art Area
  - Chalk Board or Magnetic Board or Peg Board on Fence
  - Art Spools with Chalk Board Paint on Top of Spools
  - Storage Area close for Art Supplies in Existing Sheds
- Water Play
  - Dry Creek Bed with Rounded River Rock
  - Boulders to Define the Spaces on Edges
  - Pea Gravel in Walking Areas
  - Wood or Metal Bridge over the Dry Creek Bed
  - Log Water Table with Water Storage Cistern and Trough System
- New Fencing
- Native Seed / Meadow
- 5' wide Stabilized Crusher Fines Pathway
- Existing Planting Bed to Remain
- Reading Nook / Gathering Space
- Addition of Deciduous Shade Trees
- Seating Pull-off Space
  - Work-Out Station
  - Bench
  - Boulder
- Vines & Planting Along Fence (Irrigated)

The Goddard School of Arvada Seed Site
Arvada, Colorado

Illustrative Site Plan - Nature Play
June 2019
This image is conceptual and for graphic purposes only. Plans are subject to change.

Illustrative Site Plan - Preschool

The Goddard School of Arvada
Seed Site
Arvada, Colorado

June 2019
The Goddard School of Arvada
Seed Site
Arvada, Colorado

Illustrative Site Plan - Toddler
June 2019

This image is conceptual and for graphic purposes only. Plans are subject to change.
**The Rise School of Denver**

**LOCATION**  
Denver, Colorado  
Denver County

**SITE TYPE**  
Non-profit, Child Care Center  
Seed Site 2019

**CHILDREN SERVED**  
Enrolled: 51  
Ages: Toddler-Preschool

"We hope that the careful design will provide more opportunities for students to work on their developmental goals, whether they be gross motor, fine motor, social or sensory-related. Since the overall goal for all our students is maximum independence, we hope the outdoor spaces will facilitate developmental progress across all domains."

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Before</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image1" alt="Site Visit - Future Building Expansion" /></td>
<td><img src="image2" alt="Progress" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image3" alt="Site Visit - Preschool Space" /></td>
<td><img src="image4" alt="Progress" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image5" alt="Site Visit - Toddler Space" /></td>
<td><img src="image6" alt="Progress" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Outdoor Learning Environments

1. Front Entrance
2. Preschool Area
3. Toddler Area
4. Potential Outdoor Classroom Area
5. Potential Habitat Area / Nature Path
6. Potential Community Space

Sketch Plan

- Relocated Shed
- "Logan's Place" Quiet Corner
- Seating
- Sand Play with Table
- Sensory Play on Fence
  - LS Cozy Dome or Giggle Jiggler
- Mound with Embankment Slide and Climbing Wall
- Swing (LS 2" Arch Frame)
- Balance Logs and Boulders
- Existing GT Car Cruisin' Mate
- Primary Path (5')
- Art Area
- Outdoor Classroom with Tables and Tire Planters
- Sensory Garden and Seating
- Play House and Kitchen Area
- Storage
- Multi-use Lawn
- Activity Deck (loose parts, performance, etc.)
- Sensory Wall on Fence
- Utilities and Storage
- Water Play (table and wall)
- Wheeled Toy Storage
- Garden Arch over Primary Path (5')
- Water Access Point
- Art/Chalk/Magnet Walls
- Seating
- Storage
- Cozy Corner/Sensory Garden
- Wall Play (art, chalk, magnet, sensory, music, etc.)
- Multi-use Turf Area (slide, water play, parachutes, etc.)
- Garden Arch over Primary Path (5')
- Garden with Path/Bridge
- Storage
- Shaded Sand Play with Table

Scale: 1" = 10'

* When printed at 24" x 36" size

This image is conceptual and for graphic purposes only. Plans are subject to change.
The final plan is the result of collaboration between The Rise School, ECHO, Galloway & Company, Inc., Landscape Structures, & studioTBD.
CAD details and photos pictured were provided by the ECHO team.
"We are eager to redesign our playground as a natural playscape that serves our diverse population of students with a wide range of motor and cognitive abilities. Our building is fully accessible and inclusive, but our playground is not reflective of our mission to provide a fully inclusive environment... We want this playground to provide an immersive nature experience for all children."
Tree House Early Learning Center

LOCATION
Cortez, Colorado
Montezuma County

SITE TYPE
Non-profit, Child Care Center
Seed Site 2019

CHILDREN SERVED
Enrolled: 88
Ages: Infant-School Age

“Our future hopes and dreams for our outdoor spaces... is to have an environment that is so inviting for children and families that they want to stay and ‘hang out’ and play. We want to have trees, bug houses, gardening spaces, mud kitchens, fairy and dinosaur gardens and sensory pathways.”

“We are so excited about our plans and look forward to the progress that we are going to make this next year on the outdoor spaces.”

Before

Site Visit - Preschool Space
Site Visit - Welcome Area
Site Visit - Infant Space

Progress

Design Workshop - Site Planning
Under Construction
Under Construction

Site Visit - Preschool Space
Site Visit - Welcome Area
Site Visit - Infant Space
This image is conceptual and for graphic purposes only. Plans are subject to change.

Tree House Early Learning Center
Seed Site
Cortez, Colorado

Illustrative Site Plan
August 2019
LOCATION
Cortez, Colorado
Montezuma County

SITE TYPE
Non-profit, Child Care Center
Seed Site 2018

CHILDREN SERVED
Enrolled: 60
Ages: Toddler-School Age

“Changing our thought patterns from a playground area to an outdoor learning environment has allowed us to use our creativity to stimulate the children’s creativity. We don’t just give them something to do rather we work on projects, with their input, that engage them for longer periods of time while they are busy learning themselves as well as teaching their peers.”
“The trainings that [ECHO] has provided, have been monumental in bringing forth different ideas that encompass nature. I think what was has happened is that this industry has gotten so far away from connecting to nature that this has really brought us back to our existence.”
“Our hopes and dreams for our outdoor spaces is that the children are excited to go outdoors and become engaged in activities that help them develop and learn. We are going to start adding planters and create a secondary pathway.... we are excited to utilize the space that we have. Additionally, we bring indoor activities outdoors.”
Vickers KinderCare
Seed Site
Colorado Springs, Colorado

Illustrative Site Plan
October 2019

Outdoor Learning Environments
1. Preschool/School Age Area
2. Outdoor Classroom

- Existing Shade Structure with Activity Tables
- Activity Deck
- Log Seating for Activity Deck
- Playhouse Village & Spool Tables
- Raised Planters
- Mud Kitchen
- Earth Play with Log and Stump Border
- Grass Maze / Mounds
- Reading Nook (Boulder & Logs)
- Loose Parts Deck & Storage Area
- Loose Parts Hanging on Fence
- Natural Construction Area & Fort Building
- Log Scramble; 16” Ht. Max.
- Balance Poles
- Existing Building
- Tunnels with viewing windows, secured to the ground
- Wheeled Toy Storage
- Existing Shade Structure with Activity Tables
- Existing Basketball Court
- Existing Multipurpose Lawn
- In-Ground Planting Beds / Habitat Gardens
- Ornamental Flowering Tree
- Arched Wooden Foot Bridge; 12” Arch. Ht.

Scale: 1” = 10'
LOCATION
Colorado Springs, Colorado
El Paso County

SITE TYPE
Profit, Child Care Center
Seed Site 2019

CHILDREN SERVED
Enrolled: 35
Ages: Preschool-School Age

“The greatest success we’ve experienced thus far is gaining the knowledge in order to begin turning our playground into our Outdoor Learning Environment. The workshop we attended for the Illustrative Plan including the action steps that followed, as well as the Mini Echo Summit, have provided us with the skills to move forward.”
Walden Preschool

LOCATION
Walden, Colorado
Jackson County

SITE TYPE
School District, Child Care Center
Seed Site 2019

CHILDREN SERVED
Enrolled: 21
Ages: Preschool

“We are so fortunate to be surrounded by natural beauty in the mountains. I feel that our playground does not fit the interests or needs of our students and community by not representing that natural beauty.”

“I dream of having a more outdoor friendly learning and activity spaces for my students, and a natural environment that makes it easy to transfer their learned skills to their lives outside of the preschool.”
Illustrative Site Plan

Walden Preschool Seed Site
Walden, Colorado

August 2019

This image is conceptual and for graphic purposes only. Plans are subject to change.
“I think the greatest success honestly is just coming to the point we are now because we started with literally nothing... the kids are out there enjoying it, they’re loving it. We have several different elements already so we’ve come a long way in just the couple years.”

“Today, a little boy was building a snowman with rocks he had dug out, I didn’t put them on the playground so he must have dug them out of the earth and it was just amazing.”
Proposed Deciduous Tree
(Árbol de hoja caduca propuesto)

Proposed Fruit Tree
(Árbol frutal propuesto)

Vines (Vides, trepadoras)

Perennials / Shrubs / Ornamental Grasses (Perennes/ Arbustos / Hierbas ornamentales)

Artificial Turf (Césped artificial)

Mulch Surface (Mantillo del jardín)

Proposed Parking
(Estacionamiento propuesto)

Concrete Pathway
(Sendero de concreto)

Poured In Place Surface
(Vierte en la superficie del lugar)

Fine Crushed Stone Surface
(Sendero de grava fina)

Stepping Stones
(Pedestones para caminar)

Log Seats / Steppers
(Asentos de tronco y para caminar)

Wood Structure / Deck
(Plataforma de madera)

Plant Protection Rail / Fence
(Cerca para protección de plantas)

Outdoor Learning Environments
(Ambientes de aprendizaje al aire libre)

1. Front Entrance (Entrada principal)
2. Preschool Area (Área preescolar)
3. Outdoor Classroom / Garden (Aula al aire libre / Jardín)
4. Toddler Area (Área de niños pequeños)
5. Infant / Toddler Area (Área de bebés / niños pequeños)
6. Wildlife Habitat ( Hábitat de vida silvestre)

Legend (Leyenda del mapa)
“Many of the children we serve have little or no access to green space or open-ended active outdoor play. We want to provide a safe, nurturing outdoor learning environment where children of all ages can experience nature at their own pace and in their own way. We hope that it will open their appreciation for natural spaces, respect for land and gardens, and help children feel embraced and grounded.”