

## SCHOOL GROUNDS: VITAL IN A CHILD'S DEVELOPMENT

*by:*

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In addition to preparing learners for their future careers, schools must also impart important life lessons, habits, and dispositions that will enable them to effectively navigate adulthood. Both indoor instruction and outdoor physical activity are necessary for this to be accomplished and for pupils to have the best learning experience possible.

Children are developing vital life skills while playing on school grounds, which will eventually help them become competent thinkers, leaders, and collaborators. Regrettably, play is being scrutinized as parents, teachers, and school administrators put pressure on kids to "perform" academically and spend more time in the classroom. Furthermore, unstructured play on school grounds and recess are more crucial than ever given the proliferation of gadgets and the quantity of screen time kids are exposed to daily.

Learning outside has many advantages. School grounds play a significant part in providing the kind of learning environment that kids need. Children who struggle in the classroom may excel outside because it offers a rare chance to learn in a new way.

Downie (2022) stated that grounds' aesthetics have a direct impact on how the kids feel about the school and about themselves. Children perceive school grounds as locations designed specifically for them. The value placed on the grounds also impacts on how the pupils feel about the school and about themselves because children interpret signals and meanings from their environment.

Unfortunately, school grounds of some schools are at stake due to overpopulation. There is a need to put more classrooms. Added to that, unnecessary structures are being constructed. These circumstances necessitate improved site development plans from school administrators.

Furthermore, most of us would agree that learners' academic prospects will improve in addition to their physical health by providing them with a space where they can engage in unstructured play. When offered frequent, brief opportunities for free play, children pay more attention to academic work. Likewise, this can aid in impulse management and disciplinary problems.

Without a doubt, children benefit from activities on school grounds in terms of their mental and physical development, making these vital in their development.

*References:*

Downie P. (2022) Why do school grounds matter? retrieved from

<https://urbangreendesign.org/why-do-school-grounds-matter/>