

**Playground Zoning:
Design Framework for Community Enhancement**

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Abstract

The different designs of playground depend on its area, location and environment. A problem is that most of the designed playgrounds have not been paid attention with its. When a playground is designed, planned, zoned, and how to locate playground equipments relating its environment. The study suggests that social interactions, i.e. relationship, communication, and interaction of community within playground are a key factor because they help children develop their physical and mental abilities and learn about socializing. This study, therefore, conducts a preliminary field study by collecting data from six playgrounds in the different places. This research includes the observation of users' behaviors (including kids, parents and/or guardians) and social interactions within the playgrounds and their environment. Task analysis is used to analyze data from the observation. The synthesis of a framework of a playground design framework is achieved by the integration of the observation data analysis and space management theory. This design framework is proposed to help designers design and plan playground to enhance social interaction. The study applies this framework to create a computer-aided playground design program. The validation of this framework is done by five designers. The outcome of the validation suggests that the design framework implemented in this program is able to help designers very well.

Keywords: Social interaction, Playground design