

THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX

Rethinking Play - Redefining The Classroom - Rediscovering Nature



What happens when you think outside the box?

Your classroom leaves the "box"...learning goes outside, you play as you learn and you learn as you play.

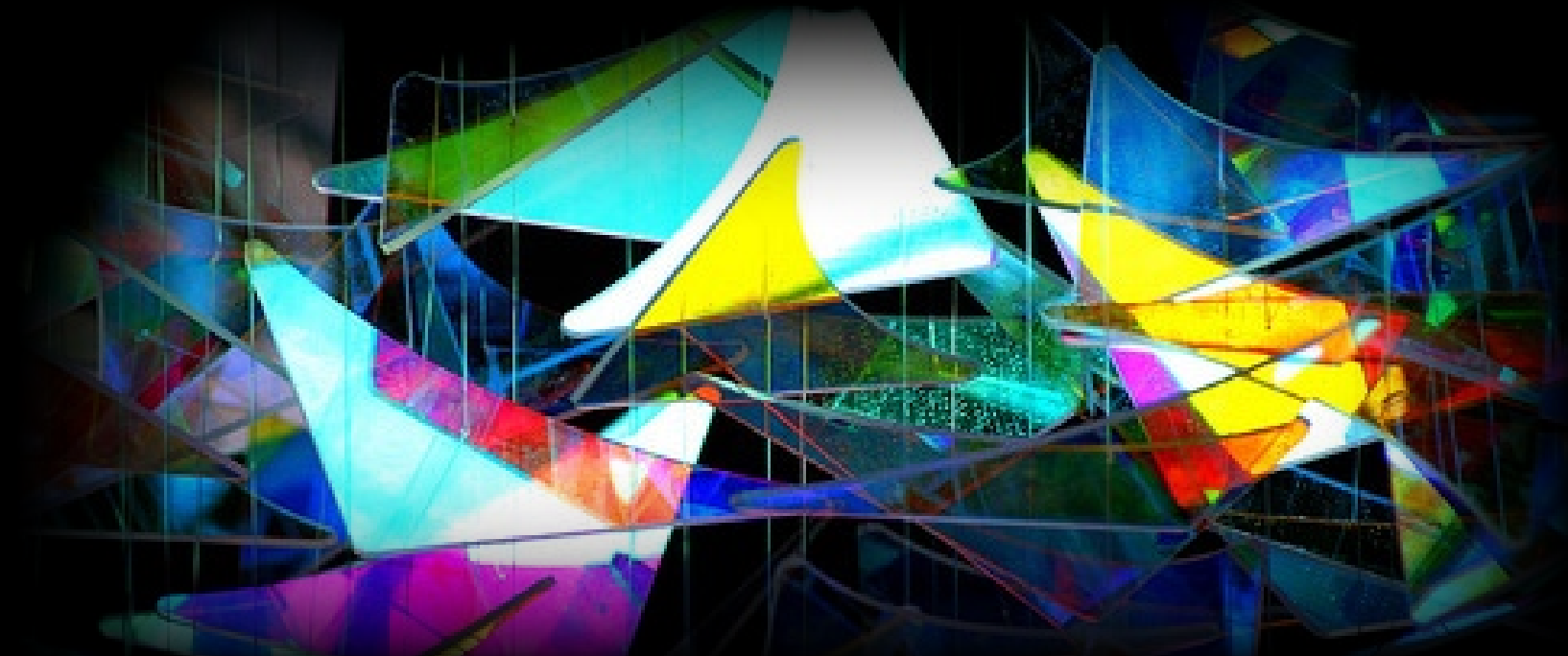
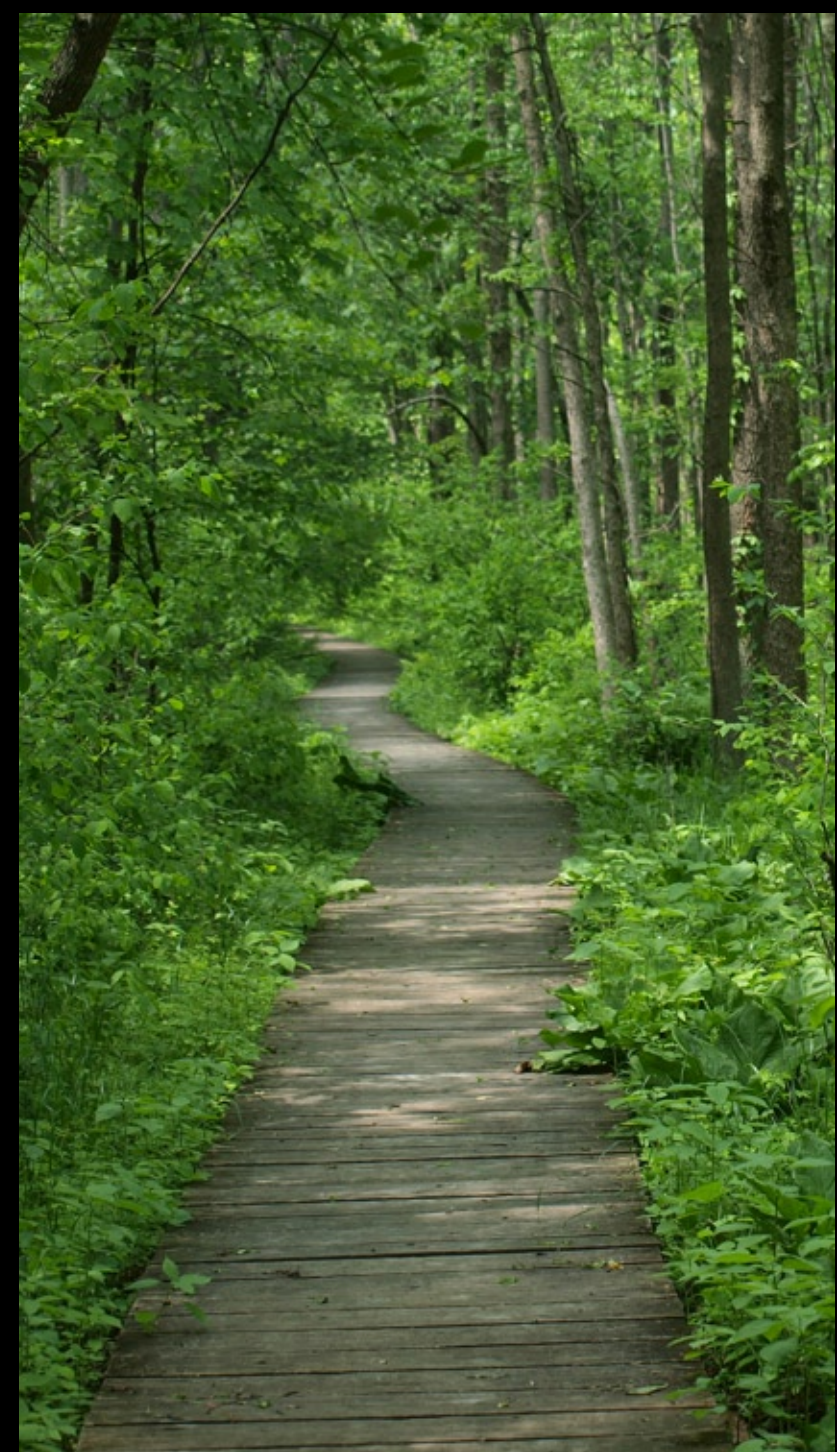
A square becomes round, a field becomes hilly, hot and sunny becomes cool and shady. What was once just black, green and flat, becomes a tapestry of colours, textures, materials and levels.

Suddenly, all of your senses are stimulated - there are things to see, touch, taste, hear and smell. You have to move - running, jumping, leaping or crawling - because the wide open space is now a place to explore. There are destinations to discover; every day of every season brings something new.

There is art everywhere you look - Nature's palette is without limit. Science is in everything you see - weather vanes are sculptures, play equipment is a means of understanding concepts of gravity and velocity.

Nature's elements become an endless obstacle course, testing physical strength, endurance and balance. We learn about different ecosystems and native plants because they are right there. We grasp the importance of plants to clean the pollution out of the water after it rains. We understand, not because we have been told, but because we have experienced first-hand.

What happens when you think outside the box?
The world comes alive and awakens the child in all of us.



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MASTER PLAN KEY

- 1 THE SHARING CIRCLE - Raised Platform with Overhead Trellis for Classes, Performances and Story Telling (Built in Storage and Mural)
- 2 Low, Meandering "Green Fence" Enclosing the Dreamer's Garden
- 3 Sloped Grassy Area for Outdoor Classes and Lying Back to "Dream"
- 4 THE PORTAL STONE - Crawl-through Stone to the Dreamer's Mound
- 5 Rain Garden to Capture Run-off Rain Water
- 6 Raised Timber Planters for Student Gardening
- 7 Garden Sundial
- 8 Overhead Structure with Vines Leading into "THE DREAMER'S GARDEN"
- 9 Enhanced School Entry - Widened Walkway with Inlaid Student Made Art Pavers
- 10 THE TAPESTRY BENCH - Bench with Student Made Tiles
- 11 THE EDIBLE GARDEN - Grapes, Strawberries, Raspberries
- 12 THE SENSORY GARDEN Pathway (Varying Colours and Textures) to Stimulate the Senses
- 13 Log Stepper Pathway Through Low Planting Leading to Art Pods
- 14 Willow Tunnels - "Doorways" Leading to Different Sections of The Sensory Garden
- 15 Wooden Boardwalk Through Aspen Forest
- 16 Art Pod - Student / Community Art Display Areas with Tree Stump Seating for Sketching
- 17 THE SENSORY GARDEN Pathway (Varying Colours and Textures) to Stimulate the Senses
- 18 Low, Meandering "Green Fence" Enclosing the Sensory Garden With Gate to Sensory Garden
- 19 Improved Access to School from Walkway and Drop-off Area
- 20 Open Area for "Wall" Ball Games
- 21 Social Play and Seating Area for Parents and Students (Pick-up / Drop-off Time)
- 22 Existing Play Equipment - Upgrades to Increase Accessibility and Improve Site Circulation
- 23 THE RAIN GARDEN - Outdoor Class and Seating Area with Sculptural Sun Shade Canopies
- 24 Boardwalk Over THE DITCH Leading to the Rain Garden
- 25 Relocated Play Equipment
- 26 Berm with Native Grass Planting and Boulder Seating
- 27 ABOVE THE FOREST FLOOR Natural Play Area (Log Steppers, Boulders and Balance Logs) Through Aspen Forest to Develop Coordination, Core Strength and Agility
- 28 THE CROSSINGS - Natural Tree Bridges Across The Ditch
- 29 Berm with Native Grass Planting and Boulder Seating to Watch Field Activities
- 30 Boardwalk Over THE DITCH Leading to the Rain Garden
- 31 THE DITCH - Bioswale with Native Planting
- 32 THE PRAIRIE POTHOLE - Circular Play Area Enclosed by Berms (Opportunity for Either Natural Play or Spinning Elements)
- 33 Existing Maintenance Entry
- 34 New Access to School Yard
- 35 THE HILL - 1.8m High Earth Berm with Native Planting and Stepping/ Seating Boulders
- 36 THE WEATHER STATION - Sculptural Weathervanes to Provide Movement, Colour and Light for All-Year Interest
- 37 Native Grass Planting
- 38 New Asphalt Path Through Accessible "Rolling Topography"
- 39 Existing Entry from Kingsway Avenue
- 40 THE OBSTACLE COURSE - Linear Rope Climbing System with Artificial Turf Surfacing to Blend with Existing Field
- 41 New Access to School Yard
- 42 Shade Trees to Define Edge of Existing Fields
- 43 THE AMPHITHEATRE - Sunken Outdoor Class / Performance Area with Basketball Hoop
- 44 Raised Planter with Perennial Planting and Shade Tree
- 45 New Chain Link Fence Set into Planting Bed
- 46 Curbed Planting Bed with Shade Trees and Perennials to Create a More Welcoming School Entry
- 47 Reconfigured 4-Square - Class Line-up Stations
- 48 Raised Planters with Wooden Bench Seating Overlooking Active Play Area
- 49 Enhanced Entry to School with Raised Planters
- 50 Existing Bike Storage Area
- 51 Butterfly Garden
- 52 Staff Lunch Area and Native Plants Garden
- 53 Existing Access to Parking
- 54 Native Plant Garden



CONCEPTUAL SITE MASTER PLAN

