Idea 6
OPENING PUBLIC FACILITIES OUT OF HOURS

Placing play facilities within existing public facilities, such as schools or healthcare centres, ensures a degree of care and maintenance.

They can then be opened out of hours for the community, increasing access for young children and their caregivers to a nearby play space.

These places tend to be trusted by caregivers and opening them longer increases opportunities for gathering after work, reducing parental stress related to limited time and space for play.

At a glance...

COST
$  $$  $$$

MAINTENANCE

GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT
- Social Services
- Education
- Health
- Parks
- Planning
- Transport

MINIMUM SCALE
Neighbourhood

EXISTING IMPLEMENTATION LEVEL
In experimentation
OUTCOME AREAS

- Increased time spent outdoors together by caregivers and children
- Reduced caregiver stress and isolation
- Increased connectivity and trust between caregivers and children from different families
- Increased exercise
- Increased frequency and efficiency of public space usage
- Increased sense of safety
- Increased profits for local businesses

REAL WORLD EXAMPLES

- New York, USA, created a programme to transform school parking lots into playgrounds. Design and construction are done with help of the community and children. They remain open for the community to use after school hours.

- In Bangladesh, the local government implemented a project to provide playground facilities for children and make primary education livelier. Playgrounds are on school grounds, but stay open to the community after school hours. Results indicate a 10% increase in attendance. Children started to arrive earlier at school to play and by the time classes began they were happier, more peaceful and attentive to class.

RELATED IDEAS

- Design for play
- Everything nearby
- Neighbourhood directories for early childhood services