

The most difficult thing in my life wherever I go is accessibility. If I ever design a park for myself I would firstly have a separate path for all the wheelchairs. Then a ramp everywhere to reach the top of the sky!

Avinash Sonnad (17 years)

My park should be full of trees, flowers, birds, animals.

Vipin (23 years)

Walking through our park what do we see ?

On the 12th of April, 2008, a beautiful Saturday morning, children of all abilities from institutions such as the Spastics Society of Karnataka, National Association for the Blind, Sheela Kotwala Institute for the Deaf, Asha Integrated School and WARDS came together at Spastics Society of Karnataka to articulate their aspirations for an inclusive park in Indiranagar, Bangalore to be developed by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahangara Palike along with Kilikili. They were supported by their parents, teachers, architects and volunteers.

Through a morning of fun and joy, the children expressed what they would like in their Dream Park - some made clay models, others drew, still others wrote, while their parents, teachers and other adults debated what, in their opinion, is needed in a public play space to enable all children to play together. This document, captures the magic of what the children and their caregivers articulated as their vision for an inclusive park and will form the basis of the design of the park. This Consultative process was jointly organised by Kilikili and Thoughtworks.



Our Dream Park

Primarily, access for children with disabilities throughout the park that includes:

- | Specific paths (for wheelchairs) around the entire park
- | Broad entrance to the park
- | Ramps with railing everywhere
- | Non slippery and even pavement
- | No steps
- | Secure fence/wall around park
- | Signage - including in Braille - regarding various disabilities to sensitise and create awareness

Water

- Pond
- Fountain
- Waterfall
- Swimming Pool (separate for babies and older children)

Land

- Sandpit
- Pebble pit
- Gradual mounds of grass
- Sensory walkway
- Soft sand around play equipment

Plants and animals

- Trees with fruits and a treehouse
- Plants and lots of flowers
- Birds chirping and bird feeders
- Animals - deer, dog, cat, rabbits
- Fish
- Ducks
- Butterflies

Play Area

- Rocking/spring Duck
- Giant wheel
- Hammock
- Swing (bucket type, for parent-child, for wheelchairs, age appropriate)
- Slide with the steps secured with mesh
- Merry-go-round
- See-Saw
- Jungle Gym
- Parallel beam
- Trampoline
- Rope ladder
- Train track
- Tunnel
- Rock climbing
- Large Abacus

- A maze with multiple activities
- Art activity and display area
- Music/ instruments
- Basketball
- Cricket
- Baseball
- Football
- Hockey and other games

We Would Certainly Like

- | Easy-to-maintain toilets near play area
- | Well-lit play area
- | Benches
- | Layout Map
- | Use of colours that are sensitive to low vision
- | Small bakery /eatery and drinking water facility
- | Reading room facility
- | First Aid Box
- | Signage (tactile and pictorial) for better usage of equipment & to enhance learning
- | Dustbins
- | Public Address System
- | Reuse of water so that there is no wastage
- | Different park timings to play longer on weekends
- | A support group and volunteers

And we wish for

- A friendly watchman or none at all
- Lots and lots of friends to play with
- Place to sit and rest - like a stone bench - under an apple tree!
- A ramp to reach the top of the sky
- Rooms to stay
- A boat with a fishing net
- Beach to relax!
- No restriction regarding presence of parents
- No board saying, "Only for children below 5 yrs"
- No signs that say, "Wheelchair/prams not allowed"

