

Little Explorer's Backyard—Final Phase

First, I would like to express my thanks to everyone who has supported the development of our backyard, and we are now in the final stage of development. This spring we purchased Noah's Ark play set, added decking at the front and back, along with a gazebo and furniture. We joined the house and lighthouse with a bridge to increase physical play. In the spring, we will add monkey bars underneath the bridge for more physical activity.

Art and quiet centre; this spring we divided the front area with a fence so we could develop a quiet space along with an art centre. This area will have a couch swing with awning, picnic table and art easels attached to the fence. Children need a place outside to rest, read, and be creative.

Shade is a big concern: we need to add more trees, but a motorized retractable awning over the back deck will be necessary because it is extremely hot on the playground. Also, good quality garden benches for kids and staff to sit on is a Must Have! More trees will be added on the west-side of the playground for shade.

Meeting physical developmental needs: the school-age children, and older preschoolers have an innate need to use their large muscles. They climb posts, scale fences, and try to lift big logs or anything that seems to challenge them physically. We are coming up with creative ways to address this need by adding a small climbing wall with knotted climbing ropes.

We are so close to completing this wonderful backyard. We need your help. Please VOTE for us everyday.

