



The Sensory Pathway Specification and illustration



SATYA SPECIAL SCHOOL-PUDUCHERRY

The speciality of the Pathway

The speciality of the Sensory Pathway is that it's become an integrated part of the play park that looks more appropriate and well-designed component of the play park wherein all other play equipments have been fixed and used by the children with special needs. The children will have double the benefits while coming to the park that they can play with other equipments as well as have access to the sensory pathway.



The Sensory pathway or walk way is specially made for children with autism, ADHD and Down Syndrome. We have used some art with painting to stimulate children. Totally 11 blocks have been made from harder to soft nature to help children feel by their tactile senses. The blocks are used to make this path. They are as follows (1) Tiles with total of $2 \times 2.5 = 5$ Sq. ft. (2) Wooden planks with total of $2 \times 2.5 = 5$ Sq. ft. (3) Blue Metals with total of $2 \times 2.5 = 5$ Sq. ft. (4) Water with total of $2 \times 2.5 = 5$ Sq. ft. (5) Micro pebbles with total of $2 \times 3.75 = 7.5$ Sq. ft. (6) Grass with total of $2 \times 3.5 = 7$ Sq. ft. (7) Big Pebbles with total of $2 \times 2.5 = 5$ Sq. ft. (8) Medium Pebbles with total of $2 \times 2.5 = 5$ Sq. ft. (9) Hard Sand with total of $2 \times 2.5 = 5$ Sq. ft. (10) Soft Sand with total of $2 \times 2.5 = 5$ Sq. ft. and (11) Soft Tiles with total of $2 \times 2.5 = 5$ Sq. ft. So, the overall size is 4.9 M x 5.9 M (16 Sq. ft. x 19 Sq. ft. area is covered for the sensory pathway. The sensory pathway might exist as a solution to help kids with autism use the pathway and play on a playground specifically designed for their needs. The pathway and playground also help build a child's skills in terms of building a sense of balance and coordination.

Components of the play area



The Sensory pathway cum play ground is Accessible, Inclusive, and Welcoming for children of varied abilities, and which offers opportunities for supporting sensory and motor development, as well as facilitating positive social communication and active participation. So, the speciality here is that the playground has created the sensory development opportunities for all children, so that the children will have access to both play ground equipments and sensory opportunity. While most people generally know about only five senses, there are, in fact, seven important senses that guide our actions through life. All seven senses work together, gathering input and feeding valuable information to the brain. Through this play activity in a well-designed playground, children develop all of their senses. That includes the five senses familiar to us (sight, sound, smell, taste, and touch) and the two most of us are unfamiliar with (proprioception and the vestibular sense)

How does it help?



Generally for the special needs the time spent actively engaging all of the senses means better physical, cognitive, emotional, and social development. Moreover, the outdoor play is perhaps the best and most natural way for children to use, develop, and optimize all of their senses, which in turn supports motor, language, social, and even academic skills in meaningful and productive ways. Thus, the sensory pathway activity would provide children with interesting and stimulating built outdoor environments. It is in a way an increased understanding of the ways in which sensory motor development is supported through this outdoor play.

Playing on a playground is a habit of passage for many children. From the fast-paced trip down the slide to lining up with friends to wait a turn on the monkey bars to yelling in delight as a swing reaches new heights, the playground is intended to be a place for fun. However, for children with autism spectrum disorder, playing on a playground can feel like a jumble of overwhelming sensory inputs. From noise to pushing to physical activity, the playground can cause a hypersensitive response in children with autism.

Thus, an inclusive multisensory play environment helps children learn to



- Problem solve
- Form social skills
- Develop self-confidence
- Learn spatial awareness

Takeaways



- Sensory pathways take into account the unique needs of children with autism, ADHD, Down Syndrome etc..
- These sensory pathways offer children with autism the opportunity to walk and play independently and with others nearby while retaining opportunities for quiet.
- Some features of the sensory pathway include therapy panels, nature features, and quiet spaces.

Sensory Pathway Various block





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