

# Blueprint for Play™



**PLAYCORE**  
Building communities through play™

## A Toolkit for Building Communities through Play & Recreation Initiatives

Play and recreation bring communities together in a variety of meaningful ways. They develop physical, social, cognitive, and emotional skills in children and families. They also uniquely build social capital through the many community engagement opportunities along the way, the outcomes that result from the physical enhancement of the actual built environment, and the resulting play & recreation experiences that will happen there over many years.

This toolkit, the Blueprint for Play, is intended to inspire communities to maximize the very process itself as a pivotal opportunity to bring stakeholders together for a community based initiative. Engaging people- the ultimate users of the play space-promises to ensure:

- A Refined and user-focused **planning** process.
- A Robust **funding** initiative that embraces giving.
- A Unique play space **designed** to meet specific community goals.
- A Dynamic **build** initiative that celebrates the community members' talents and builds social capital.
- A Comprehensive plan for using and **sustaining** the space to ensure a wise investment and a lasting legacy.

Just as every play space should be customized to a community, this toolkit is designed so that you can ultimately customize the resources to meet your needs.

It is designed to put the power that drives the decision process in your hands, and guide you in engaging both volunteer and professional resources to ultimately create a unique play and recreation space that meets your defined outcomes and inspires your community. Although your project may not require all of the guides in the Blueprint, we recommend reading each, as there are key planning points, programming ideas, and motivation in each that may help to inspire you and your team in the creation of your unique playground plan.

To put this toolkit to work for you, log on to [www.playcore.com/toolkit](http://www.playcore.com/toolkit). You can review each book, and fill out a short questionnaire to help you determine the suite of Blueprint guidebooks and supplementary materials that will help you reach your unique goal!

The Blueprint for Play will help you organize, engage, and succeed!



# Blueprint for Play™

Use the comprehensive Blueprint for Play suite of tools to guide your overall master plan, or select the parts of the series that apply to the initiative you are pursuing. The Guidebooks within the Blueprint for Play include:



## Plan it.

An overview of the planning process and steps needed when undertaking a playground project. From initial site selection to engaging the community in contributing to your play spaces meaningful content - Plan It helps you break the process into steps, and addresses the components required in each to move forward. Plan It is a helpful tool in any stage of playground development.



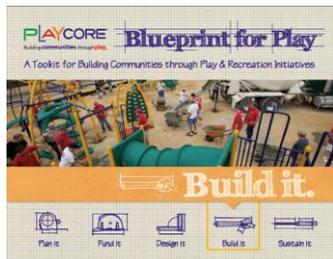
## Fund it.

This book reviews many funding options available for playgrounds, from grants to fundraisers, and then illustrates a variety of ways to use the strength of your community to engage donors and "make the ask." A great resource for stimulating the creativity needed to discover your community's funding strong points and capitalize on them for success.



## Design it.

A play space must be meaningful, inclusive, and engaging to be successful, and Design It helps illustrate the key points to explore in playground design to help accomplish this goal. It also highlights a variety of methods for engaging children, stakeholders, and the community in the process to reach a final design that can be used to rally community support and ultimately create a play space that engages children and families for years to come.



## Build it.

Whether you are planning a community build effort, or would prefer to hire a professional installation crew, this book offers a variety of build models, helps you determine how to select the best one for your unique needs, then uncovers the steps needed to ensure your preferred build model happens on time and on budget.



## Sustain it.

Sustain It- You'll want to ensure your play space is used and maintained regularly! Sustain It provides basic information on playground maintenance and supervision, and illustrates a variety of activities and programs you can implement to help make it even more meaningful to the community!