

# What do you see?



Compare these side-by-side photos to learn more about **inclusive playground design**. The black and white photos on the left were taken at a typical playground. The color photos on the right were taken at Magical Bridge Playground. Once you understand the kind of things that make Magical Bridge Playground's inclusive, you'll be able to recognize how other areas in your community may not be accessible for everyone. Keep an eye out for similar "problems" around your town. Can you think of ways to make public spaces more inclusive? **If you're at Magical Bridge Playground, can you find the inclusive features shown? Check the green box in the top right corner in each section below when you've found it!**



## THE PROBLEM WITH STAIRS

The stairs on typical play structures make the top level impossible to reach for people who have trouble walking or climbing.



## THE MAGIC OF RAMPS

Ramps allow easy access to all areas of the playground, including the top levels, so people using wheelchairs can play everywhere.



## THE PROBLEM WITH CURBS

Concrete or wooden curbs are used as perimeter barriers at typical playgrounds, making it difficult for wheelchairs to enter, and can cause people to trip.



## THE MAGIC OF NO BARRIERS

Flat surfaces make it easier and safer for everyone to move around. There is less chance for tripping and falling which is important for older people.



## THE PROBLEM WITH STRUCTURES

Typical structures require strength, balance, and agility to play. Wheelchair users and people with other physical disabilities simply cannot join in the fun.



## THE MAGIC OF THE PLAYHOUSE

The playhouse has ramps and gentle slopes so everyone can play, even on the second story! It's a beautiful place for performances and using your imagination.



## THE PROBLEM WITH TAN BARK AND SAND

Although considered "accessible," tan bark and sand is rough, loose, and uneven, making it difficult for wheelchair users to move around.



## THE MAGIC OF SMOOTH SURFACES

Seamless and flat rubber surfaces, concrete, and turf allow everyone to move freely in all areas of the playground.



### THE PROBLEM WITH SLIDES

Slides are fun—as long as you are able to get to the top. If so, some people may need extra time at the bottom of the slide to wait for their wheelchair or help from a friend.



### THE MAGIC OF SLIDE AND SIT LANDING™

The bench at the bottom of the slide gives people who need extra time space to wait without blocking others from using the slide.



### THE PROBLEM WITH TUNNELS

Tunnels are often high off the ground and not accessible for people unable to climb or crawl. They can be dark, narrow, and hard to move around in.



### THE MAGIC OF QUIET SPACES

Hideaway Huts™ provide a cozy place to take a break from play. This is especially useful for people with autism who may not like noises and busy play.



### THE PROBLEM WITH TABLES

Typical picnic tables have benches on all four sides so there is no room for wheelchair users. It's also difficult for people who cannot lift or bend their legs easily.



### THE MAGIC OF INCLUSIVE SEATING

At Magical Bridge, the tables have at least one side without a bench so wheelchair users can easily sit with everyone. Games make the tables even more fun!



### THE PROBLEM WITH SEE SAWS

See Saws need two people to sit on small seats. It requires upper and lower body strength to balance, making it difficult for those with physical disabilities to use.



### THE MAGIC OF THE SWAY BOAT

The Sway Boat has a ramp and platform so wheelchair users can play. The boat can hold many people so groups can enjoy swaying together.



### THE PROBLEM WITH SWINGS

Swings require upper and lower body strength, balance, and coordination. “Tot” swings offer more support but bigger kids and adults cannot fit.



### THE MAGIC OF BUCKET SWINGS

Bucket swings, sized for all ages including adults, allow all visitors to sit and swing comfortably and securely with low effort.



### THE PROBLEM WITH LADDERS

Typical climbing structures require upper and lower body strength to play and are not accessible for people with physical disabilities.



### THE MAGIC OF CLIMBING LOOPS

Everyone can access the loops on the Slide Mound to exercise their upper body strength and get to the top at their own pace.