

Educational value of the different elements

Pergolas, Seating Walls, benches and wooden seating sculptures

The timber pergolas and seating walls and benches largely function as utilitarian elements that provide shade and resting spaces in the garden. The seating sculptures are made from wood and are in the form of animals. (Snake, seals, crocodiles, birds, fish, etc)

Educational component: Providing shaded areas and seating for visitors and could create a creative space to discuss the different animals and how to look at nature and discover the hidden gems.

Boardwalk over succulent garden

The boardwalk will take you over the different succulent and grass species

Educational component:

Learners will be able to discover the value of succulents and the important roll these plants play, as well as discover the different uses of these plants.

Woven Nests

The woven nests are large structures that mimic the nests of indigenous birds. The large nests can be climbed into and provide entertainment as a climbing structure but also an educational element to teach how different birds use different natural material to create their nests. The material used and form of the nests are specific to the context and microclimate of the area and bird species.

Educational component:

Birds' nests are amazing structures that come in a wide range of sizes and styles. Understanding more about why and how birds build nests will give learners better insights into the amazing lives of different bird species. They will be able to create bird nests using natural materials, weaving and different designs and why.

Textured Pathways

The textured pathway forces one to notice different material textures as you walk along the pathway and could be made of both natural and artificial elements.

Climbing Structure, Crawling Tunnel and Sand Pit

The climbing structure will be a giant spiders web and functions both as a large play element a sculptural piece and look it the uniqueness of spiders and their webs.

The crawling tunnel weaves between existing and new planted trees and shrubs in the garden, exposing your sense of enclosure and sense of space and discovery.

The sand pit provides opportunity to dig and get your hands dirty in earth, communicate, make connections, provide opportunity to dig for hidden items, to create things, use large and small muscles as they moved their bodies in different ways and have fun

Educational component:

These elements teach how things are held together, spatial awareness, earth materials, discovery, communication and problem solving skills, exploring concepts such as cause and effect, volume, measurement, depth, weight, absorption and balance.

Animal print and Mosaic stepping stones

The stepping stones function as a playful element that could also depict educational images e.g. animal foot prints, plants, animals and can depict natural elements and links to other components or parts of the garden and bigger Green Point Park.

Educational component:

Will proved an element of fun and discovery through finding them and identifying e.g. different animals and the footprints they make.

Drinking Fountain and Water Feature

The stream water feature brings the vital importance of water to the garden, continuing the strong role water has in the broader park and City. The water feature provides opportunity to teach about the history and importance of water in the Cape, linking to our current water scarcity. It also provides a cooling and fun element during hot summer months allowing people to touch and actively engage with water.

Educational component:

Water play builds the foundation for understanding various scientific concepts it will teach learners basic mathematics. It will introduce them to terms such as Full, Empty, Half, Less. They will be able to measure, compare volumes and observe motion, discover water plants and animal life ...and just have fun playing in water.

Weather station

Elements as part of a Weather station could be a Barometer for measuring atmospheric pressure, Hygrometer for measuring humidity, Anemometer for measuring wind speed, Rain gauge for measuring liquid precipitation over a set period of time, Wind sock for measuring general wind speed and wind direction and a Wind vane, also called a weather vane or a weathercock showing wind direction. A wind sculpture could add an element of beauty and functionality to the station.

Educational component:

Learners will be able to notice the weather when outside and they could be engaged in using their senses to notice and describe the weather and then they will be able to make use of all the different weather station elements to get proper readings and measurements.

Edible, Medicinal and Fragrant Plants in 4 raised planters

The plants used throughout the garden will include those chosen for their sculptural qualities, their strong smell as well as their taste. Different areas of the garden will use these different plants with signage encouraging users to feel / smell / taste.

Educational component:

Learners will be able to do basic plant identification, look at value of indigenous plants, different uses of plants, e.g. as a food source, as medicine. They could look at different soil types and how to propagate plants.

Beaded Animals

The beaded animals will be representative of the animals, birds, insects, reptiles associated with different plant types and will be placed uniquely so that learners can discover them.

Educational component:

Learners will be able to identify the animals and learn about the unique role each of these animals play and why we need to conserve and protect them.

Permaculture Garden

Permaculture is a set of design principles centered on whole systems thinking, simulating, or directly utilizing the patterns and resilient features observed in natural ecosystems. It uses these principles in a growing number of fields from regenerative agriculture, rewilding, and community resilience.

Education component:

It will teach people and learners how to propagate plants, the use of different containers to plant in, understand composting and the close loop system.

Interpretive and Information Signage

Signage will be complementary to the design and layout of the EEG. It will explain key issues represented in the EEG.

Educational component:

Learners will be able learn from the sign boards and use it when they need to find information or complete an education task.

Hopscotch Pad

Hopscotch is a children's game that can be played with several players or alone. Hopscotch is a popular playground game in which players toss a small object into numbered triangles or a pattern of rectangles outlined on the ground and then hop or jump through the spaces to retrieve the object. This will provide an element of colour and fun to the EEG.

Education component:

As much fun as hopping is, it's pretty easy once you get the hang of it. And that's where the mechanics of Hopscotch are so brilliant, forcing kids to hop, jump and stop with deliberate control. As such, Hopscotch is a master at helping children master self-control.

Dome

The central dome structure will link to the existing steel dome and Khoi-Khoi hut dome structures in the BSG garden in the Park. This will provide a central area in the garden for gathering of groups, for passive recreation as well as for workshops or lessons. The dome can be constructed with different materials to create interest. The dome will require specialist engineering input and may require planning approval.

Educational component:

The dome will be an ideal undercover space, protecting people from the elements and for hosting education programmes and events in a creative space.