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Investigating Ways in Which Incorporating Green Areas in Designing Classrooms and Play Areas Fosters Children Cognitive Development, Learning, and Creativity

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Abstract : The indoor and outdoor climate of an architectural or closed space determines opportunities that children have for different types of learning. Bringing green areas into the classroom might give freedom to teachers to incorporate learning activities that activate different senses such as sight or touch. Green spaces and design in the classroom can help children practice different concepts they learn in subjects such as science. The practical aspect of having green areas or designs in the classroom can also facilitate high-level and long-lasting learning. Green spaces, particularly in the play areas or around schools, improve creativity and give experimental opportunities for children and enjoyment the beautiful and green nature, which impacts cognitive development in the in long-term. Furthermore, previous studies indicated that green settings generally may help attention concentration and self-discipline. Bringing green areas into classrooms or outdoors for children can look different depending on resources. It could look like green spaces, indoor or outdoor, or have representation or samples of green space. From the design perspective, bringing green areas into school might mean incorporating these spaces when designing different areas in school or attending to colors and shapes to reflect green spaces.

Keywords: green areas, cognitive development, children cognitive, class design

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