

# Case Study

GROUNDS FOR PLAY INCORPORATED STEAM ELEMENTS INTO THIS PLAY ENVIRONMENT TO HELP INCREASE ENROLLMENT



# KIDDIE ACADEMY

Mount Prospect, Illinois

**THE CUSTOMER:** Kiddie Academy provides educational child care to children across the United States. In 2018, Preeti Gulati opened her second Kiddie Academy in Mount Prospect, Illinois. She wanted

to incorporate a well-rounded play environment. Gulati chose to work with Grounds For Play because we were able to provide more than just a standard playground.

**THE SOLUTION:** Design Consultant Lauren Harrigan designed three distinct areas for the various age groups at Kiddie Academy including an infant/toddler area and an area for children ages 2-12.

For children 6-23 months old, the infant/toddler area features the Phase II model of the Tot-Trek™. It includes developmentally-appropriate elements such as stairs, slide, activity panels, and bridge. This structure is protected with a 14' square cantilever shade. Located next to the Tot-Trek™ is the Double To-Fro Glider.

There's a larger area for children 2-12 years old that extends the classroom outdoors by incorporating STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) elements.

A large stamped concrete pathway connects each part of this play space, which includes a shaded play structure, musical instruments, nature play products, tri-directional water trough system, engineering center, and science and discovery center.

The engineering center and science and discovery center are unique features that make Kiddie Academy stand out from the other child care centers in the area.

-Lauren Harrigan  
Design Consultant

For Gulati, one of the most important parts of this play environment are the STEAM elements that help extend the classroom outdoors.

"The engineering center and science and discovery center are unique features that make Kiddie Academy stand out from the other child care centers in the area," Harrigan said.

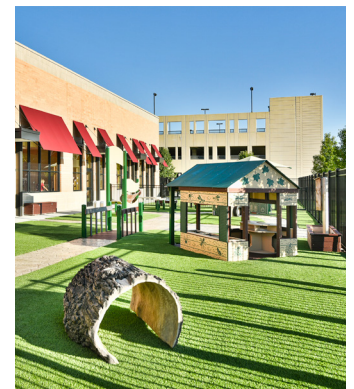


**THE RESULTS:** Grounds For Play designed a play environment that helped Kiddie Academy increase enrollment.

“Children and parents love the space. It has been a large selling tool for Kiddie Academy as they worked to finalize enrollment

before and after opening,” Harrigan said.

The play space has benefited Kiddie Academy by providing plenty of space for all the children to play and learn. It also gives teachers a space to creatively teach in an outdoor setting.



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