



Guiding Hearts
Inspiring Minds
Shaping Lives

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playground (plă' ground) n.
Where friendships are born, dreams launched,
memories made, and worlds discovered.



NCA (en see ā) n. A community of Christian families and teachers deeply committed to teaching their children to expect excellence from themselves.

Powerful Play

A playground is more than merely a place for children to learn and practice motor skills. Through thoughtful planning, playgrounds can also function as important settings for children's intellectual, emotional, and social development.

At Naples Christian Academy, we want to bring balance to our children's play. We believe we have a responsibility to ensure the best possible environment for development in all areas.

- *A beautiful princess can transform the Balcony into a castle.*
- *Adventurers can turn the Climbing Wall into the Grand Canyon!*
- *On Swings, kids can fly through treetops of a tropical rainforest.*
- *A Cargo Net becomes a pirate's ship in the Caribbean.*
- *A freestanding rock formation becomes Mt. Everest.*



Yesterday

Our current playground is 18 years old, is in a serious state of disrepair, and must be replaced. It was appropriate only for 5-to-8-year-olds, and could accommodate only a small number of children at any given time. In no way does it reflect NCA's commitment to excellence.

Today

Now's the time for us to take action. NCA students have always been blessed with access to the finest academic opportunities. They deserve a well-rounded, balanced growth environment.

- Children's physical, intellectual, emotional, and social growth processes are closely intertwined, and play contributes to all four of these areas.
- An ideal setting for play incorporates rich and varied experiences for children, and contributes to emotional maturity, positive peer relationships, and a sense of competence.
- Unrestricted, creative play is critical to a child's development. A properly designed playground functions as an outdoor learning environment, analogous to an indoor classroom, and encourages activities – without any direction from adults – just by virtue of what it contains and how it's laid out.
- Playground structures with a variety of play features enable children of various levels of physical skill to play together.

** The above facts are according to Dr. Ann Barbour, a professor in Early Childhood Development at California State University in Los Angeles.*

Tomorrow

We have been working closely with Piazza, Inc. and BigToys®, companies renowned for creating safe, positive play experiences that provide fun, excitement, and most importantly, developmental benefits. They have helped us to design the ideal playground for the high standards at Naples Christian Academy.

Our new playground will consist of two major play structures: The Legacy is designed for 5-to-12-year-olds, and will accommodate up to 72 children at one time. The Villa will be for children ages 2 to 5, and has a capacity of up to 34 children. This will allow over 100 NCA children with various levels of physical skill to play together. They'll have a variety of activity options that include graduated challenges so they won't quickly "outgrow" them.

What We Need

Our proposed playground site in its entirety will cost \$100,000.

The comprehensive plan includes: Site prep, installation, mulch, and timbers

The Legacy Play Structure

- Balcony
- Banister Bars
- Bench
- Bubble Panel
- Cargo Net
- Curly Climber
- Hand-ring Maze
- Mountain Climb
- Play Counter
- Playshell Traverse
- Slidepole
- Spiral Slide
- Triple Slide
- Vertical Access Climber
- Vertical Hoop Climber



The Villa Play Structure

- Bench
- Boarding Net
- Curly Climber
- Double Plastic Slide
- Overhead Ladder
- Rock Climb
- Turning Bar
- Wobbly Walk
- Big Wheel Enclosure



- Swings
- Sand and Water Table
- Climbing Rock

You can view the proposed NCA playground site plan at www.napleschristian.net