

ProjectPARK

IMPORTANT PARK FEATURES FOR: TEENS

ProjectPARK: a study with teens 13-18 years to identify the park features they consider to be most important for their park visitation, park-based physical activity and social interaction (2017-2020)



34 completed a walk-along interview in a park to discuss park features



222 rated 40 photos of different park features



244 completed a survey to identify the relative importance of park features

TOP 10 FEATURES THAT ENCOURAGE TEENS TO VISIT PARKS

- 1 Large swings (i.e. 360° swing)
- 2 Large grassy open space
- 3 Café²
- 4 Sports goals¹
- 5 Trampolines²
- 6 Quiet, private place to hang out
- 7 Outdoor fitness equipment
- 8 Giant slides²
- 9 Obstacle course or parkour area to climb on¹
- 10 Table tennis tables¹

TOP 10 FEATURES THAT ENCOURAGE SOCIAL INTERACTION IN PARKS

- 1 Café
- 2 BBQ/picnic area
- 3 Sports courts (netball or basketball)
- 4 Traditional swings³
- 5 Large grassy open space
- 6 Sports goals¹
- 7 Long flying fox²
- 8 Interactive areas (e.g. touch-sensor illuminated statues)
- 9 Trampolines
- 10 Giant slides

¹Particularly for males ²Particularly for females ³Swings were more important for females than males, particularly group swings in a circle

TOP 10 FEATURES THAT ENCOURAGE TEENS TO BE ACTIVE IN PARKS

- 1 Sports courts (netball or basketball)
- 2 Large grassy open space¹
- 3 Outdoor fitness equipment²
- 4 Walking/cycling paths
- 5 Long flying fox
- 6 Sports goals¹
- 7 Large swings (i.e. 360° swing)
- 8 Obstacle course or parkour area to climb on
- 9 Trampolines
- 10 Large things to climb (i.e. climbing structures)

In all three phases, teens tended to prefer park features that were large, adventurous, and challenging, such as a long flying fox

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