

# Local Government Association Tasmania Creating & Funding Great Playgrounds & Playspaces Forum Nature Playspace – Informed Design



Natasha Szczyglowska  
Project Manager Infrastructure





What is Nature Play

NATURE PLAY TEACHES PEOPLE TO

Think creatively

Be resilient

Develop life skills

Cooperate

Nurture life

Improvise solutions

Test their boundaries

Improve movement

Assess risk

Get messy

Develop spatial awareness

Use their senses

Imagine

Explore

Develop strength

Respond to challenges

Resolve conflict

Observe

Collaborate

Be more capable

Regulate stress

Build immunity

Learn through play

Wonder why

Feel connected to nature

Problem solve







## The Site





# Prospect Vale Park Playground

Our story...



# Design Components





Original Budget  
**\$170,000**

Intended **12 Week**  
Construction

- Clear Site
- Remove existing equipment
- GPS elements
- Excavation
- Install s/w
- Edging
- Create mound
- Sculpt logs
- Place boulders
- Assemble logs
- Sandstone wall
- Install water play
- Footpaths
- Softfall surfaces
- Landscaping
- Play equipment

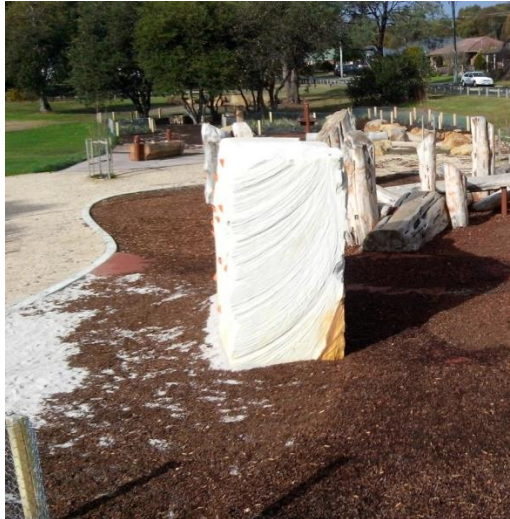
Actual **61 Week**  
Construction

Final Spend  
**\$223,000**

## The Construction Program







Lessons from Nature Play

NATURE PLAY  
TEACHES COUNCIL TO

- Be prepared
- Develop life skills
- Nurture relationships
- Observe
- Improvise
- Test boundaries
- Break the mould
- Appreciate risk
- Develop spatial awareness
- Plan for time
- Use common-sense
- Communicate
- Imagine
- Respond to challenges
- Think creatively
- Consider Nature
- Ask Questions
- Think of the future
- Resolve conflict
- Work together
- Learn through challenges
- Be patient
- Problem solve





## Design

- Public consultation
- Design certification & equipment specs
- Sourcing natural materials
- Placing natural materials & designing for the future
- Don't design within an inch of your life
- Beware GPS
- Variety of surfaces
- Ongoing maintenance
- Collaboration with Works Department
- Quantity Surveyor or Design with contractor



## Construction

- Scheduling design & construction
- Designer to specify inspection points
- Commitment of contractors resources
- Constructability of design
- Issuing directions
- Neighbouring project impacts
- Site management – inclement weather
- Using AS contracts
- Choosing playground equipment
- Surface transitions & buffers
- Dry vs wet play
- Water play logistics
- Entrapments in nature play
- What are you trying to achieve



## Lessons Learnt







## Open Day



# Nature Play Space - Informed Design



Questions

