

Risky Play

For Children of All Abilities



A form of play that is thrilling and exciting, which involves uncertainty, unpredictability, and varying degrees of risk-taking (PLaTO-Net)

Risk is relative, and no matter what a child's abilities are, they can engage in and benefit from play that is challenging to them

Risky play is a personalized experience that differs depending on a child's age, experiences and ability levels



When supporting risky play for children of all abilities consider:



- How the risky play opportunities in your play space can engage children of all abilities
 - Providing opportunities that can be accessed by a range of ability levels
 - Providing sticks, logs, other loose parts, and tools that can a variety of physical challenges
- Offering 'challenge by choice': which means having a variety of invitations for children to engage in an activity to the level they are comfortable
- Providing 'dignity of risk': which means allowing children of all abilities the opportunity to engage in risky play
- Reading books that reflect children of different abilities taking on challenges.

When supporting risky play for children of all abilities it is important to:

- Reassure them you are nearby to support if needed
 - Allow them to participate at the level they are comfortable with
- Problem solve ways to include their peers when an activity presents a barrier

Find resources and so much more at OutdoorPlayCanada.ca and the [SPROUT-able Project Page](#)

